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ABSTRACT

This paper extends a series of studies examining school district report cards, which began with investigations of Tennessee's report card data. Since 1988, the Texas State Board of Education has produced a report card on each school district to report district-level data. Texas district report card items were organized into student outcome indicators and demographic categories. The study used 10 of the 13 categories in the Texas Assessment of Academic Skills and the College Admissions Tests as the dependent variables representing student outcomes. Independent variables representing demographic items came from 73 items in 7 areas. How school district characteristics related to student outcomes, and their relative importance, and the categories that were strongly associated with student outcomes were studied, along with district accreditation status. Most categories on the Texas report card had little or no meaningful relationship to student outcomes. However, of the three with the most positive relationship, two, attendance and teacher turnover, can be addressed in school improvement efforts, although percentage of economically disadvantaged students, the third category, is not susceptible to school improvement efforts. The choice of statistical techniques used to examine complex relationships between student outcomes and related factors influenced the products of the examinations. In fact, the Texas report card, like those of some other states, does not include information on some of the most important factors influencing student performance. Eleven appendixes examine various statistical associations among dependent and independent variables. (Contains 10 tables, 30 appendix tables, 1 figure, and 18 references.) (SLD)

TEXAS' HIGH SCHOOL REPORT CARDS ON SCHOOLS: WHAT PARENTS, EDUCATORS, OR POLICYMAKERS CAN GLEAN FROM THEM

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TEXAS' HIGH SCHOOL REPORT CARDS ON SCHOOLS: WHAT PARENTS, EDUCATORS, OR POLICYMAKERS CAN GLEAN FROM THEM

I. BACKGROUND

This paper extends some series of studies examining school district report cards. The investigations of 1988-89 Tennessee report card data explored the relationships among eight school district variables and the relationship between each variable and average student test scores at the school district level. In 1990-91, Tennessee began use of its new Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program (TCAP), thereby creating a new set of student outcome measures. The authors examined the relationships among 15 school district variables and the relationship between each variable and average student test scores at the school district. In addition, the 1990-91 and subsequent report cards report TCAP results at several grade levels within school districts (2-8, 10) making possible the study of relationships among school district characteristics and student outcomes at both school levels (*elementary, middle, secondary*) and at individual grade levels (*2nd, 3rd, 4th, etc.*). This data analysis made possible extensions of the 1988-89 report card studies and made possible a comparison of certain findings in the two sets of studies.

The 1992-93 Arkansas school district report cards are similar to Tennessee's school report cards for they both used and reported a norm-referenced national achievement test, and a criterion-referenced state-designed achievement test. The authors evaluated the Arkansas's 1992-93 school district data by examining the relationships among 17 demographic items with six outcome indicators (SAT8 25th Percentile, SAT8 50th Percentile, SAT8 75th Percentile, Average ACT, MPT 8th Grade Pass, MPT Student Pass Rate).

From 1993-95, the authors (French and Bobbett, 1993, 1994, and 1995) have been involved in several parallel studies investigating the categories and outcome indicators reported in different regions in The United States: in 11 Southeastern (1993), 10 Northeastern (1994), and 8 Western (1995-96) states. These studies compared five general areas including: (1) instruments used to measure student outcome, (2) student outcomes reported and the procedures for reporting them, (3) levels of outcome data reported, *i.e., district, school, grade level, classroom*, (4) school and community factors reported, and (5) statistical procedures used in evaluating the data.

II. SNAPSHOT '94

Beginning in 1988, Texas' State Board of Education produces a report card on each school district using data provided by the district and by the State Department of Education. The cards report district-level data, *i.e.*, individual school data are not reported. Currently, a report card contains student outcome data (testing information) and other district data. The Texas State Department of Education provided a sample school district report card (a sample of 28 districts) including: Students (Table 1, p 3), TAAS and College Admissions Tests (Table 2, p 4), Staff (Table 3, p 5), Teachers (Table 4, p 6), Taxes and Revenues, and Fund Balances (Table 5, p 7), and Expenditures and Instructional Expenditures (Table 6, p 8). The authors organized Texas' report card items under two sections: (1) Student Outcome Indicators, and (2) Demographic Categories. The study used all outcome items with an "n" larger than 1046 and as the dependent variables. All items not directly related to student outcome were selected as the study's independent variables.

Texas' former Commissioner of Education, Dr. Lionel R. Meno, overviewed the *Snapshot '94*'s purpose by stating:

Snapshot '94, the seventh edition of this publication, provides information concerning students, student performance, staffing, and financing of Texas public schools. This annual summary is a useful tool for all individuals interested in evaluating the progress of Texas school districts toward providing an excellent and equitable education for all students.

During the 1993-94 school year, Texas public school students showed performance gains on both the Texas Assessment of Academic Skills and college admission tests. However, much work remains to be done to close the gap in performance for economically disadvantaged and ethnic minority students. Closing this gap continues to be a primary focus for Texas educators.

Over the last three years there has been increased flexibility for public schools to design programs to meet student needs. Along with this increase in local control comes the responsibility to implement local accountability systems to complement the state system. Each of us must take an active part in these endeavors. I encourage you to become familiar with the information contained in *Snapshot '94*. This material is essential to understanding the environment in which Texas educators perform, the progress they have made, and the work that remains to be done. (emphasis added) (*Snapshot '94*, 1994, p i)

The introduction section of *Snapshot '94* states:

... 1993-94 School District Profiles provide a detailed look at public education in the State of Texas for the 1993-94 school year. As diverse as the state itself, school districts in Texas exhibit extreme differences in almost every way: size, property wealth, percent of low-income students, and the ethnic composition of students and staff. *Snapshot '94* captures this diversity and provides readers with the basic information needed to assess the differences, and the strengths and weaknesses, among the various school systems.

Published annually since 1987-88, *Snapshot '94* presents a variety of information in a consistent format. Changes in this edition are minor. Some changes are due to modifications in the student assessment program or to revisions in the data collection system. Others occurred in order to present items in a format consistent with their use in the 1994 accountability rating systems for Texas public schools and school districts. An evaluation form, located inside the front cover, provides an opportunity for readers to influence future editions. (emphasis added) (*Snapshot '94*, 1994, p 1)

III. TEXAS SCHOOL DISTRICT REPORT CARDS

Texas' State Board of Education produces a report card on each school district using data provided by the district and by the State Department of Education. The *Snapshot '94* organized the 87 items into nine areas including: (A) Students, (B) Texas Assessment of Academic Skills (TAAS), (C) College Admissions Tests, (D) Staff, (E) Teachers, (F) Taxes and Revenues, (G) Fund Balances, (H) Expenditures, and (I) Instructional Expenditures (see Figure 1). This study used 10 of the 13 categories in the "TAAS" and "College Admissions Tests" areas as the dependent variables representing student outcome. Note that % of Other Passing, % Tested, and % At or Above Criterion were not included as dependent variables. Seventy-three categories in the seven other areas were used as the study's independent variables representing demographic items. The data items are numbered to correspond with numbers used in the column headings. To ascertain data sources for these items, refer to Appendix A, which cross-references sources with the categories previously defined. The nine areas and corresponding categories are included in Figure 1.

Table 1. A sample school district report card illustrated in Snapshot '94: Student Area

DISTRICT DETAIL		STUDENTS															
County Number, Name, Region, District Name, Co-op Status		STUDENTS															
1. ACCREDITATION STATUS		2. TOTAL NUMBER OF SCHOOLS															
3. NUMBER OF REGULAR HIGH SCHOOLS		4. TOTAL STUDENTS															
5. 5 YR % CHANGE IN TOTAL STUDENTS		6. % AFRICAN AMERICAN															
7. % HISPANIC		8. % WHITE															
9. % OTHER		10. % ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED															
11. % SPECIAL EDUCATION		12. % BILINGUAL/ESL EDUCATION															
13. % CAREER & TECHNOLOGY ED.		14. % GIFTED & TALENTED ED.															
15. ATTENDANCE RATE		16. ANNUAL DROPOUT RATE															
17. NUMBER OF GRADUATES (CLASS OF 1993)		18. % INTERIM GRADE															
102 HARRISON Elysian Fields Hallsville Hartleton Karnack Marshall Waskom	Region 7 M F AC AC AC AC AC	1 1 1 1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1 1 1 1	994 3,370 549 431 6,530 810	5.0 13.0 7.6 9.3 2.9 4.1	23 7 8 62 47 27	3 2 0 49 49 49	74 91 0 0 0 0	1 1 0 0 0 0	38.9 21.2 36.4 77.3 40.6 46.5	10 9 11 17 9 10	0 1 1 0 2 2	18 23 8 19 19 14	6 3 8 3 6 14	94.9 95.4 95.4 94.4 95.0 96.4	0.4 2.3 0.4 2.4 2.8 0.0	57 153 30 25 311 59
103 HARTLEY Channing Hartley	Region 16 M M	0 0	139 125	6.1 1.6	0 0	17 7	83 93	1 0	59.0 46.4	16 8	3 2	26 22	8 19	96.3 96.4	0.0 0.0	13 13	
104 HASKELL Haskell Cons Paint Creek Rochesler Rule	Region 14 M M M M M	0 0 0 0 0	787 114 204 17.9 188	6.6 8.6 8 7 6.5	34 20 38 25 25	8 80 55 72	1 0 0 0 0	56.5 51.8 64.7 20 42.6	21 20 11 17 17	2 35 13 12 33	11 13 6 12 12	97.1 95.4 94.2 96.5 96.5	0.3 3.9 3.9 1.0 1.0	37 9 6 12 12			
105 HAYS Dripping Springs Hays Cons San Marcos Cons Wimberley	Region 13 M F AC AC AC	4 1 8 9 3	2,127 4,844 1,922 6,441 34.5	48.9 1.92 2 6.6 4	1 2 37 61 5	8 61 34 95	90 0 0 0 0	1 0 49.6 19.0 18	132 33.3 12 18	14 13 12 12 18	10 13 15 17 10	95.9 95.4 94.6 96.1 96.1	0.2 1.8 1.8 0.6 0.6	101 251 302 56 56			
106 HEMPHILL Canadian	Region 16 M	1	809	1.7	0	19	81	0	30.2	14	7	14	6	96.5	1.3	51	
107 HENDERSON Athens Brownsboro Cross Roads Eustace La Povsky Malakoff Murchison Trinidad	Region 7 AC AC RE M AC M AC M RE M	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 0 0	3,395 2,211 1,225 539 1,157 1,436 1,127 1,134 252	3.4 11 1 4.5 1 9.5 18 8.8 8.2	18 14 1 1 2 2 3 3 18	12 70 96 2 96 85 79 75 75	1 0 2 0 0 0 1 0 0	35.6 35.1 36.4 52.7 52.7 36.2 57.1 48.4 48.4	8 18 18 22 22 11 15 13 13	7 1 0 0 0 1 1 0 0	13 21 18 21 7 24 15 0 0	5 6 7 7 7 13 4 9 9	95.6 95.3 94.8 94.7 94.7 95.9 95.6 95.9 95.9	2.9 2.9 1.4 1.4 1.4 2.0 0.6 0.6 1.9	173 129 42 66 33 52 n/a n/a 13		
108 HIDALGO Dolina Edcouch Elsa Edinburg Cons	Region 1 AC AC F	1 1 2	8,836 4,347 17,688	34.3 14.1 20.3	0 0 0	98 99 95	2 1 5	0 0 0	83.0 87.4 79.7	8 7 10	51 52 41	9 14 4	94.2 95.1 94.8	1.4 2.8 2.5	235 186 744		

'M' indicates that the district is a member of a special education cooperative. 'F' indicates that it is the fiscal agent.
'?' indicates that data for this item fall outside a reasonable range.

Table 2.

A sample school district report card illustrated in Snapshot '94: Test Scores Area

TAAS PERCENT OF STUDENTS PASSING FOR ALL GRADES COMBINED (SPRING 1994 TEST ADMINISTRATION)										COLLEGE ADMISSIONS TESTS (CLASS OF 1993)				Page 2 of 6	
18. ALL TESTS TAKEN	19. READING	20. WRITING	21. MATHEMATICS	22. AMERICAN	23. HISPANIC	24. WHITE	25. OTHER	26. ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED	27. PERCENT TESTED	28. PERCENT AT OR ABOVE CRITERION	29. SAT: MEAN TOTAL SCORE	30. ACT: MEAN COMPOSITE SCORE	County Number, Name, District Name		
50.8	76.7	77.9	55.3	30.0	64.3	55.9	LTS	38.5	64.6	8.3	LTS	19.0	102 MARRISON		
63.3	78.9	81.8	69.8	38.0	65.7	65.7	LTS	42.1	63.9	13.9	LTS	19.6	Ensign Fields		
63.5	85.6	92.6	69.8	54.2	64.3	61.5	LTS	61.5	7.1	0.0	LTS	18.7	Hallsville		
65.6	59.1	42.6	33.5	LTS	50.0	LTS	LTS	38.2	71.4	12.5	LTS	15.9	Hanleton		
39.5	44.3	68.9	48.7	26.5	26.9	60.7	LTS	28.3	53.0	5.5	LTS	20.4	Karnack		
44.3	68.9	73.8	51.8	22.7	37.5	54.7	LTS	27.7	69.1	0.0	LTS	19.0	Marshall		
46.8	76.3	75.9	51.8											Washton	
59.4	82.3	75.0	62.9	LTS	70.0	58.5	LTS	42.9	57.1	0.0	N/A	18.8	103 HARTLEY		
71.4	85.5	86.4	76.4	LTS	LTS	72.7	LTS	58.6	84.6	23.1	LTS	21.1	Channing		
69.2	86.1	82.5	76.2	41.2	46.5	79.9	LTS	51.4	90.9	9.1	LTS	19.2	104 HASKELL		
58.5	87.5	90.0	65.0	LTS	30.0	67.7	LTS	35.0	28.6	0.0	N/A	LTS	Haskell Cons		
49.3	67.2	88.5	56.5	LTS	46.4	52.6	LTS	45.2	80.0	20.0	N/A	LTS	Paint Creek		
69.5	89.0	90.0	76.8	LTS	50.0	77.0	LTS	60.0	72.7	18.2	LTS	21.8	Rochester		
72.3	93.1	91.4	73.9	LTS	47.8	74.4	LTS	33.3	65.9	28.6	LTS	105 HAYS	Rule		
58.2	79.3	83.2	62.5	48.9	37.3	69.8	LTS	38.5	58.7	13.3	865	22.8	Dripping Springs		
51.4	74.4	73.6	56.1	34.7	38.1	75.6	LTS	35.2	70.9	18.1	900	19.4	Hays Cons		
77.7	94.3	92.8	80.6	LTS	57.1	78.1	LTS	60.0	62.3	28.3	977	20.2	San Marcos Cons		
84.9	92.4	94.4	89.7	LTS	LTS	72.3	87.0	LTS	77.8	100.0	27.1	1,003	22.2	Winberley	
51.1	71.3	76.6	56.0	23.3	25.0	60.3	LTS	26.0	43.9	11.0	N/A	106 HEMPHILL	Canadian		
63.7	82.4	86.2	68.8	35.4	45.0	67.1	LTS	58.1	41.1	9.3	950	20.9	107 HENDERSON		
72.7	90.6	95.2	75.2	LTS	60.0	73.0	LTS	63.3	50.0	2.9	896	19.2	Athens		
61.7	83.9	88.9	66.1	37.5	62.1	62.1	LTS	56.7	26.8	8.9	965	19.1	Brownsville		
40.0	66.5	80.0	45.7	LTS	43.4	60.2	LTS	35.4	48.4	6.5	LTS	21.9	Cross Roads		
55.0	79.0	85.7	59.0	28.8	85.7	69.4	LTS	46.1	35.0	5.0	N/A	20.2	Eustace		
68.8	82.8	100.0	68	LTS	23.5	51.3	LTS	63.2	N/A	0.0	N/A	19.7	La Pynor		
44.0	69.4	60.5	5	LTS	49.5	51.3	LTS	29.8	36.4	0.0	LTS	17.3	Makoff		
31.2	52.7	56.0	38.5	LTS	30.5	56.9	LTS	29.2	93.4	3.9	762	16.8	108 HIDALGO		
48.4	69.4	69.7	56.2	LTS	48.0	81.3	LTS	46.2	59.4	2.9	908	16.6	Donna		
49.3	73.9	74.4	53.4	50.0	47.6	72.7	88.9	43.7	66.6	6.2	848	17.3	Edcouch Elsa		
														Edinburg Cons	

LTS indicates that more than zero, but less than five students were in this category; therefore, results are masked to protect the students' anonymity.

N/A indicates 'not applicable' or 'not available.'

Detailed Statistics: District Detail

Table 3. A sample school district report card illustrated in Snapshot '94: Staff Area

County Number, Name, Region, District Name, Co-op Status		STAFF														
		31. TOTAL STAFF	32. TOTAL TEACHER FTE	33. % CENTRAL ADMINISTRATIVE	34. % CAMPUS ADMINISTRATIVE	35. % PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT STAFF	36. % TEACHERS	37. % EDUCATIONAL AIDS	38. % AUXILIARY STAFF	39. AVERAGE CAMPUS ADMINISTRATIVE SALARY	40. AVERAGE CAMPUS ADMINISTRATIVE SALARY	41. PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT STAFF SALARY	42. AVERAGE SALARY TEACHERS	43. % MINORITY	44. RATIO OF STUDENTS TO TOTAL STAFF	45. RATIO OF STUDENTS TO TEACHERS
102 HARRISON	Region 7	M 113 F 386	M 64 F 219	M 4 F 1	M 3 F 2	M 5 F 6	M 56 F 53	M 4 F 9	M 30 F 28	M 37,199 F 54,797	M 41,169 F 44,156	M 30,600 F 32,816	M 28,075 F 26,554	M 24 F 8	M 8.8 F 8.7	M 15.6 F 15.4
Elysian Fields	Hallsville	M 78	M 41	M 2	M 1	M 3	M 57	M 9	M 25	M 47,500 F 40,668	M 40,668 F 30,374	M 26,554 F 29,804	M 24,822 F 34,305	M 10 F 14	M 7.0 F 7.6	M 13.3 F 11.4
Hallton	Karnack	M 57	M 38	M 1	M 1	M 6	M 66	M 16	M 0	M 39,016 F 35,382	M 43,141 F 41,229	M 34,305 F 28,750	M 27,075 F 28,479	M 40 F 24	M 8.5 F 7.5	M 17.6 F 13.3
Marshall	Waskom	M 773	M 372	M 3	M 1	M 6	M 48	M 15	M 28	M 55,147 F 45,036	M 41,740 F 40,000	M 18,300 F 20,089	M 26,622 F 25,450	M 4 F 4	M 5.6 F 4.7	M 9.3 F 7.8
103 HARTLEY	Region 16	M 108	M 61	M 2	M 2	M 4	M 56	M 4	M 32	M 46,700 F 43,699	M 41,740 F 40,000	M 18,300 F 20,089	M 26,622 F 25,450	M 4 F 4	M 5.6 F 4.7	M 9.3 F 7.8
Channing	Hartley	M 25	M 27	M 4	M 0	M 1	M 61	M 10	M 20	M 48,000 F 43,699	M 40,000 F 43,699	M 20,089 F 25,450	M 4 F 4	M 5.6 F 4.7	M 9.3 F 7.8	
104 HASKELL	Region 14	M 107	M 26	M 2	M 2	M 3	M 56	M 7	M 28	M 45,980 F 44,200	M 37,832 F 33,280	M 28,174 F 28,733	M 25,978 F 24,126	M 11 F 20	M 7.3 F 5.7	M 13.1 F 11.1
Haskell Cons	Paint Creek	M 36	M 18	M 2	M 2	M 5	M 54	M 11	M 27	M 45,001 F 43,699	M 32,620 F 35,254	M 28,325 F 34,234	M 23,309 F 26,864	M 0 F 7	M 4.4 F 4.7	M 8.1 F 8.7
Rochester	Rule	M 40	M 22	M 4	M 3	M 2	M 52	M 14	M 26	M 43,699 F 43,699	M 44,200 F 43,699	M 28,733 F 34,234	M 24,126 F 26,864	M 0 F 7	M 5.7 F 4.7	M 11.1 F 8.7
105 HAYS	Region 13	M 275	M 296	M 1	M 2	M 4	M 53	M 10	M 30	M 49,902 F 65,768	M 47,590 F 45,222	M 35,435 F 33,929	M 26,828 F 27,854	M 10 F 26	M 7.7 F 26	M 7.6 F 16.3
Dripping Springs	Hays Cons	M 633	M 442	M 2	M 2	M 3	M 9	M 6	M 35	M 65,768 F 61,975	M 45,222 F 42,826	M 34,165 F 29,530	M 27,416 F 27,766	M 40 F 3	M 7.5 F 8.0	M 14.6 F 14.6
San Marcos Cons	Wimberley	M 859	M 81	M 1	M 3	M 5	M 55	M 8	M 28	M 61,975 F 61,975	M 42,826 F 42,826	M 29,530 F 29,530	M 27,766 F 27,766	M 3 F 3	M 8.0 F 8.0	M 14.6 F 14.6
106 HEMPHILL	Region 16	M 148	M 121	M 70	M 1	M 4	M 58	M 5	M 28	M 60,800 F 36,750	M 44,705 F 40,960	M 34,806 F 38,000	M 31,658 F 24,983	M 6 F 8	M 6.7 F 6.4	M 11.6 F 11.3
Canadian																
107 HENDERSON	Region 7	M 415	M 213	M 1	M 3	M 5	M 51	M 9	M 30	M 58,725 F 51,192	M 40,828 F 42,507	M 31,637 F 30,132	M 26,403 F 26,382	M 17 F 16	M 8.2 F 7.4	M 15.9 F 13.7
Athens	Brownsville	F 259	M 138	M 1	M 3	M 4	M 53	M 12	M 27	M 58,490 F 58,490	M 37,765 F 40,155	M 27,919 F 40,155	M 25,910 F 30,604	M 1 F 0	M 8.2 F 8.2	M 16.0 F 15.8
Cross Roads	Eustace	M 73	M 39	M 1	M 3	M 2	M 54	M 8	M 31	M 58,490 F 58,490	M 37,765 F 40,155	M 27,919 F 40,155	M 25,910 F 30,604	M 1 F 0	M 8.2 F 8.2	M 16.0 F 15.8
La Povsky	Malakoff	M 141	M 73	M 2	M 4	M 6	M 52	M 12	M 24	M 44,540 F 36,112	M 43,500 F 39,587	M 27,666 F 39,587	M 25,216 F 26,870	M 3 F 3	M 7.2 F 7.2	M 12.5 F 12.5
Murchison	Trinidad	M 60	M 35	M 5	M 3	M 4	M 58	M 7	M 23	M 40,960 F 36,750	M 40,960 F 38,000	M 20,000 F 24,983	M 24,005 F 24,112	M 0 F 8	M 6.4 F 6.4	M 11.2 F 11.3
108 HIDALGO	Region 1	M 142	M 73	M 3	M 2	M 0	M 6	M 57	M 10	M 23	M 40,960 F 36,750	M 40,960 F 38,000	M 23,446 F 24,112	M 0 F 8	M 6.4 F 6.4	M 16.4 F 16.3
Donna	Edcouch Eisa	M 21	M 12	M 2	M 1	M 6	M 44	M 16	M 31	M 49,514 F 52,631	M 50,671 F 42,517	M 36,719 F 36,749	M 28,214 F 29,674	M 87 F 89	M 6.4 F 7.3	M 16.4 F 16.3
Edinburg Cons		M 39	M 22	M 5	M 3	M 2	M 57	M 15	M 18	M 36,750 F 31,759	M 38,000 F 46,907	M 24,983 F 31,759	M 24,112 F 29,575	M 8 F 8	M 6.4 F 7.0	M 16.4 F 16.3

"M" indicates that the district is a member of a special education cooperative. "F" indicates that it is the fiscal agent.
 "r" indicates that data for this item fall outside a reasonable range.

Table 4. A sample school district report card illustrated in *Snapshot '94: Teacher Area*

TEACHERS		Page 4 of 6	
46. % TEACHERS WITH 1 OR FEWER YEARS EXPERIENCE	47. % WITH 5 OR MORE YEARS EXPERIENCE	51. % AFRICAN AMERICAN	52. % HISPANIC
0.0 21.7 24.6	3.3 11.4 12.2	17.3 20.5 19.4 0.0 2.6 0.3 0.0	14.7 13.0 12.9 33.4 10.5 13.2 13.8
48. AVERAGE YEARS OF EXPERIENCE	49. % WITH ADVANCED DEGREES	50. TEACHER RATE	51. % OTHER EDUCATION
0.0 18.6 12.5	2.7 25.7 31.2	40.9 6.7 26.1 21.2	8.3 3 0 0 0 0 0
52. % WHITE	53. % OTHER	54. % REGULAR EDUCATION	55. % SPECIAL EDUCATION
0.0 100.0 100.0 100.0	87.0 96.0 93.0 0.0 58.0 79.0 77.0	90.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0	79.0 79.0 78.0 79.0 76.0 7.0 6.0
56. % COMPLEMENTARY EDUCATION	57. % EDUCATIONAL ENRICHMENT	58. % BILINGUAL/ESL EDUCATION	59. % CAREER & TECHNOLOGY ED.
0.0 17.8 13.8 13.2 26.9 0.0 0.0	11.1 14.8 14.8 12.4 25.0 12.5 0.0	1.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0	0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0
60. % OTHER EDUCATION (INCLUDES GATE)	61. % DISTRICT NAME	62. % COUNTY NUMBER, NAME	63. % DISTRICT NAME
0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0	102. HARRISON Elysian Fields Hallsville Hartleton Kinnick Marshall Waskom	103. HARTLEY Channing Hartley	104. HASKELL Haskell Cons Paint Creek Rochester Rule
0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0	105. HAYS Dripping Springs Hays Cons San Marcos Cons Wimberley	106. HEMPHILL Canadian	107. HENDERSON Athens Brownboro Cross Roads Eustace La Panto Mabank Murchison Franklin
0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0	108. HIDALGO Donna Edcouch Elsa Edinburgh Cons		

Detailed Statistics: District Detail

Table 5. A sample school district report card illustrated in Snapshot '94 : Taxes and Revenues Area

County Number, Name, Region, District Name, Co-op Status	TAXES AND REVENUES						FUND BALANCES			EXPENDITURES		
	61. TAXABLE PER PUPIL	62. EQUALIZED TAX RATE	63. STATE AID PER PUPIL	64. TOTAL REVENUE	65. TOTAL REVENUE PER PUPIL	66. % STATE	67. % LOCAL AND OTHER	68. % FEDERAL	69. FUND BALANCE END OF 92-93	70. % FUND BALANCE OF 93-94 BUDGET	71. TOTAL EXPENDITURES	
102 HARRISON	Region 7	M	184,048	1,128	2,091	4,092,909	4,118	44	50	7	1,597,968	44
		F	320,949	1,377	308	16,113,986	4,782	6	90	3	2,307,578	18
		M	124,416	1,304	3,605	2,850,038	5,191	59	34	7	2,011,805	78
		M	164,222	1,219	3,428	2,910,948	6,754	56	32	13	3,101,803	13
		M	173,258	1,106	1,665	28,461,098	4,359	43	46	11	7,703,848	33
		M	168,503	1,342	2,171	4,270,275	5,272	42	55	3	512,508	14
		M	51,326	1,150	678	971,882	6,992	8	87	5	1,313,016	125
103 HARTLEY	Region 16	M	285,947	1,500	2,613	934,007	7,472	30	64	7	23,933	26
104 HASKELL	Region 14	M	107,275	1,227	3,638	4,171,203	5,300	65	26	8	2,026,026	55
		M	338,013	1,228	3,150	947,391	8,310	44	52	4	296,764	34
		M	132,718	1,300	600	1,096,416	5,375	57	33	10	290,078	33
		M	201,991	1,278	317	1,746,664	9,288	63	30	7	716,319	47
		M	51,326	1,150	678	971,882	6,992	8	87	5	1,313,016	125
105 HAYS	Region 13	M	153,693	1,374	2,345	10,243,515	4,816	48	50	3	1,995,749	31
		F	103,457	1,474	3,226	25,014,500	5,164	62	33	5	1,175,871	6
		M	128,577	1,550	2,535	32,336,285	5,020	49	42	9	2,138,049	8
		M	253,055	1,657	1,286	5,983,629	5,020	17	81	2	1,339,566	26
106 HEMPHILL	Region 16	M	588,899	1,369	318	5,660,750	6,997	5	94	2	1,698,714	25
		M	51,326	1,150	678	971,882	6,992	8	87	5	1,313,016	125
		M	144,792	1,367	3,504	1,305,352	5,180	53	40	7	707,871	59
107 HENDERSON	Region 7	M	146,101	1,431	1,977	15,365,739	4,526	45	48	7	900,197	7
		F	142,512	1,213	2,498	10,282,198	4,650	52	43	6	4,718,586	57
		M	197,190	1,475	2,363	3,001,714	5,569	41	57	3	620,598	26
		M	169,566	1,235	2,447	5,225,823	4,517	46	47	7	1,852,625	42
		M	417,611	1,173	433	2,344,275	5,377	10	84	6	965,596	18
		M	254,364	1,083	1,466	5,370,599	4,765	32	59	9	732,949	38
		M	162,789	1,440	3,576	812,256	6,062	52	42	6	276,283	38
		M	144,792	1,367	3,504	1,305,352	5,180	53	40	7	707,871	59
		M	51,326	1,150	678	971,882	6,992	8	87	5	1,313,016	125
108 HIDALGO	Region 1	M	34,361	1,202	3,710	10,385,198	4,571	74	10	16	12,322,108	35
		F	21,932	1,258	4,157	2,011,462	5,064	75	6	19	8,386,473	36
		M	79,510	1,256	3,405	89,825,801	5,078	65	21	14	15,679,194	20

M* indicates that the district is a member of a special education cooperative.
 ? indicates that data for this item fall outside a reasonable range.

Table 6. A sample school district report card illustrated in *Snapshot '94: Expenditures Areas*

EXPENDITURES		INSTRUCTIONAL EXPENDITURES					Page 6 of 6	
		72. % INSTRUCTIONAL	73. % CENTRAL	74. % ADMINISTRATIVE	75. % PLANT SERVICES	76. % OTHER OPERATING	77. % NON-OPERATING	
47	8	4	8	15	18	3,801,339	3,824	2,186,638
45	6	7	8	15	18	12,601,431	3,739	6,879,565
54	11	6	7	16	14	2,622,757	4,777	1,559,963
46	7	5	9	17	10	2,474,556	5,741	1,330,185
52	9	5	9	16	7	25,568,232	3,916	14,888,209
56	7	9	5	13	11	3,875,397	4,784	2,308,690
47	14	5	10	13	11	985,809	7,092	516,066
52	13	5	13	13	4	967,132	7,737	527,100
54	7	6	10	15	7	3,828,368	4,865	2,244,633
50	12	7	13	16	3	941,207	8,256	4,488,343
57	14	3	9	15	2	984,265	4,825	576,617
43	10	3	4	8	32	1,145,550	6,093	723,437
38	7	6	10	18	21	6,717,153	3,158	3,214,867
46	6	4	10	16	17	21,352,087	4,408	11,936,452
50	8	4	8	15	15	28,648,916	4,448	16,785,167
45	7	4	8	12	24	5,115,616	4,292	3,037,022
52	7	6	12	16	7	5,080,664	6,280	2,849,204
50	8	5	8	15	14	13,109,617	3,861	7,687,238
48	8	4	9	16	16	8,354,155	3,778	4,762,963
44	9	6	8	16	18	2,526,581	4,688	1,362,986
49	7	6	7	18	13	4,457,458	3,853	2,525,526
57	12	4	7	15	5	2,415,548	5,540	1,441,217
50	9	4	12	18	7	4,489,048	3,983	2,404,733
53	13	0	8	11	15	688,960	5,141	429,144
54	10	5	11	16	4	1,265,543	5,022	718,201
51	11	4	8	21	4	40,737,303	4,610	21,960,030
39	5	2	7	14	32	19,100,203	4,394	11,137,336
52	6	3	8	19	11	85,066,986	4,809	50,084,656

A. Students	45. Ratio of Students to Teachers
1. Accreditation Status	
2. Total Number of Schools	
3. Number of Regular High Schools	
4. Total Students	
5. 5 Yr % change in total students	
6. % African American	
7. % Hispanic	
8. % White	
9. % Other	
10. % Economically Disadvantaged	
11. % Special Education	
12. % Bilingual/ESL Education	
13. % Career & Technology Ed.	
14. % Gifted & Talented Ed.	
15. Attendance Rate	
16. Annual Dropout Rate	
17. Number of Graduates	
B. Texas Assessment of Academic Skills (TAAS)	
18. % Passing All Tests	
19. % Passing Reading	
20. % Passing Writing	
21. % Passing Mathematics	
22. % African Americans Students Passing	
23. % Hispanic Students Passing	
24. % White Students Passing	
25. % Other Students Passing	
26. % Economically Disadvantaged Students	
27. Percent Tested	
28. % at or above Criterion	
C. College Admissions Tests	
29. SAT: Mean Total Score	
30. ACT: Mean Composite Score	
D. Staff	
31. Total Staff FTE	
32. Total Teacher FTE	
33. % Central Administrative	
34. % Campus Administrative	
35. % Professional Support Staff	
36. % Teachers	
37. % Educational Aides	
38. % Auxiliary Staff	
39. Average Central Administrative Salary	
40. Average Professional Support Staff Salary	
41. Average Professional Support Staff Salary	
42. Average Teacher Salary	
43. % Minority	
44. Ratio of Students to Total Staff	
E. Teachers	
46. % Teachers with 1 or More Permits	
47. % with 5 or Fewer Years Experience	
48. Average Years of Experience	
49. % With Advance Degrees	
50. Teacher Turnover Rate	
51. % African American	
52. % Hispanic	
53. % White	
54. % Other	
55. % Regular Education	
56. % Special Education	
57. % Compensatory Education	
58. % Bilingual/ESL Education	
59. % Career & Technology Ed.	
60. % Other Education. (Includes G&T)	
F. Taxes and Revenues	
61. Taxable Value Per Pupil	
62. Equalized Total Tax Rate	
63. State Per Pupil	
64. Total Revenue	
65. Total Revenue per Pupil	
66. % State	
67. % Local and Other	
68. % Federal	
G. Fund Balances	
69. Fund Balance	
70. % Fund Balance (or 93-94 budget)	
H. Expenditures	
71. Total Expenditures	
72. % Instructional	
73. % Central Administrative	
74. % Campus Admininistrative	
75. % Plant Services	
76. % Other Operating	
77. % Non-operating	
78. Total Operating Expenditures	
79. Total Operating Exp. per Pupil	
I. Instructional Expenditures	
80. Total Instructional Expenditures	
81. Total Instructional Expend. per pupil	
82. % Regular Education	
83. % Special Education	
84. % Compensatory Education	
85. % Bilingual/ESL Education	
86. % Career & Technology Ed.	

Figure 1. Texas' Snapshot' 94 nine areas and corresponding categories (see Appendix A for complete definitions)

IV. METHODOLOGY

Investigators used the 1993-94 Texas school district report card data for the study. The study's 10 student outcomes were used in these analyses (see Figure 1, Subpart B). The following research questions guided the study:

1. How do school district characteristics currently reported in the Texas report cards relate to reported student outcomes, using univariate (Pearson Product Moment correlation) analysis?
2. What categories, using univariate analysis, strongly associate with student outcomes as a whole (as opposed to the 10 different outcome indicators individually)?
3. Do the report card characteristics appear to represent all or most of the factors which relate to student outcomes?
4. How do school district characteristics currently reported in the Texas report cards relate to the reported student outcomes, using multivariate analysis?
5. How statistically complex are the categories that were identified as having a very strong relationship to student outcomes?
6. How does the district's accreditation status relate to student outcomes?
7. After eliminating the overlap between the 73 independent variables and the 10 dependent variables, what approximate weights can be assigned to the variables with the greatest and smallest association with student outcomes?

Investigators treated student outcome data (test data) as the dependent variable and other data as independent variables that influence student outcomes. A composite of all school districts in Texas ($n=1046$) was produced. Several analyses were conducted. The study used the .05 level of significance in all statistical testings.

To answer question #1, the researchers used the Pearson Product Moment correlation "trend-line" analysis to assess the relationships between each of the 73 reported characteristics and each of the 10 school district's student outcomes. A *coefficient of determination* (r^2) showed the levels of interaction between categories and each of the 10 outcome dependent variables. The following relationships were examined: general, positive, negative, neutral, and extreme.

Research question #2 required no further statistical analysis. The correlation "r" among the 10 outcome variables was averaged and the items with the largest interactions ($r \geq .200$) were identified.

To respond to question #3, exploratory multiple regression was used to examine the cumulative variance among the independent variables for each of the 10 outcome variables.

Research question #4 required no further statistical analysis. Using multivariate analysis, the collective relationships among the 73 categories were compared to each of the 10 outcome indicators. Relationships were organized into three categories: (1) strong = 5 to 9 significant associations between

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the 10 outcome indicators and each of the seven report card areas; (2) moderate = 3 to 4 significant relationships; and (3) no relationship = 0 to 2 significant relationships. Next, specific categories with the strongest association to the 10 outcome indicators were identified.

For research question #5, the earlier Pearson Product Moment analysis was used to compare the positive and negative associations between the four categories with the most consistent association with student outcomes (i.e., ≥ 7 out of 10 significant relationships) and the other 72 categories.

To answer question #6, z-scores were developed for the 10 outcome indicators. Z-score analysis was developed for each of Texas' four accreditations and then examined. Next, the Snapshot '94 relating to outcome (Table 2, p 4) was compared to the study's z-score analysis for the same district.

Research question #7 was answered by computing correlations among independent variables. A coefficient of determination (r^2) showed the levels of interaction between independent variables.

V. FINDINGS

Findings of the study are reported in two areas: (A) descriptive analysis of school districts and (B) responses to the research questions.

A. Descriptive Analysis of School Districts

1. The 1993-94 Profile of Texas (TX) 1046 School Districts

A profile of Texas (TX) school districts ($n=1046$) by Report Card category was developed (see Appendix B). For each category, the number of schools submitting data, mean score (M), standard deviation (SD), and minimum, maximum, and range were compiled.

a. Outcome Data (TAAS and College Admissions Test Areas)

Of the 1046 TX districts, 1044 districts provided All Tests, Reading, and Mathematics data, and 1033 provided Writing data (see Appendix B). When TAAS was examined by race, 593 districts provided African American outcome data, 886 districts provided Hispanic data, 1030 provided White data, and 270 districts provided Other outcome data. About 1034 districts provided Economically Disadvantaged outcome data, 684 districts provided SAT data, and 834 provided ACT mean data. The TAAS district **Total Test** mean ($M=58$) was lower than the TAAS subskills scores of **Reading**, **Writing**, and **Mathematics** ($M=79$, 82, 63, respectively). These four outcome item's wide ranges (77, 80, 61, and 77, respectively) along with their small deviations (12, 10, 10, and 12, respectively) reflect more than 3 standard deviations between the top and bottom districts' TAAS scores. When the TAAS item mean scores were examined by race, African American ($M=34$) and Hispanic ($M=45$) means were lower than White ($M=66$) and Other ($M=69$) means. The ranges (Range=100, 100, 80, and 83, respectively) and respective standard deviation analysis ($SD=14$, 14, 11, and 17, respectively) reflected more than 3 standard deviations between the district's top and bottom scores.

Texas' mean district **SAT** score was 867: the lowest district averaged about 601 and the top district averaged about 1131. The range of 530 between the top and bottom districts suggested 3-plus standard deviations ($SD=72$) between the top and bottom district. Texas' district **ACT** mean score was 19.8. The range between the top ($M=25$) and bottom ($M=14$) district's ACT mean scores and respective standard deviation analysis ($SD=1.6$) reflected 3-plus standard deviations between the top and bottom district's mean ACT score.

b. **Demographic Data (Independent variables)**

The 73 demographic items are organized into seven areas which include:

i. **Students** All 1046 districts provided total number of schools; number of high schools; number of students; 5 year percent change in students; percent African American students; percent Hispanic students; percent White students; percent Other students; percent economically disadvantaged students; percent special education students; percent bilingual students; percent career/technology education students; percent gifted and talented students; and percent attendance—14 of 16 items (Appendix B). About 1022 districts provided percent dropout and 966 provided number of graduates (see items 2-17). The average Texas district has 6 schools, 1 high school, 3,443 students, and an 8% change in students every 5 years. Ethnically, the average district consists of 8% African American, 25% Hispanic, 66% White, and 1% other. Typically, 45% of the students are classified as economically disadvantaged, 13% are special education, and 5% are classified as bilingual. About 17% participate in career and technology education, and 8% participate in gifted and talented education. The average district has a 96% attendance rate, 2% dropout rate, and 166 graduates. The ranges and standard deviations for the items in the Students areas reflected more than 3 standard deviations between the top and bottom districts. At the bottom level of the range, one or more districts reflected only one school; no high school; as few as three students; and reflected no African American, Hispanic, White, or other students. In addition, one or more districts reported no economically disadvantaged, special education, bilingual, career and technology education, gifted and talented education students, a low of 88% attendance, zero percent dropout, and no graduates. At the high end of the spectrum, one district had 256 schools, 32 high schools, 200,445 students, and a 138% 5 year change in students. One or more districts reflected a high of 87% African American, 100% Hispanic, 100% White, and 21% other. One or more districts students are 100% economically disadvantaged, 46% receive special education, 80% are bilingual, 75% participate in career and technology education, and 28% receive gifted and talented education. One district reflected a 99.7% attendance, a 10% dropout, and graduated 6,773 students.

II. **Staff** All 1046 districts reported total FTE; total teacher FTE; and percent central administration, campus administration, professional staff, teachers, education aides, auxiliary staff, and minority data. About 1044 districts provided mean central administrative salary and mean campus administrative salary; 1045 districts provided mean teacher salary; and 1027 provided mean professional support staff salary. The typical Texas district averaged a total of 415 FTEs and 217 total teacher FTE. The typical district's staff consisted of 2% central administration, 3% campus administration, 4% professional staff, 54% teachers, 10% educational aides, and 27% auxiliary staff. The average district reflected about 18% minority, had a student-staff ratio of 7.3, and a student-teacher ratio of 13.5.

Minimum, maximum, and ranges for staff items were examined. From the minimum perspective, one or more districts reflected 1 total FTE, 1 total teacher FTE, and "zero" percent central administration, campus administration, professional staff, educational aides, auxiliary staff, or minority staff. One or more districts reflected no expenditure on central administrative salary, campus salary, and professional staff salary supplement, and paid an average per teacher salary of \$17,822. One or more districts reflected a "zero" percent minority, had as small as a 1.9 student-staff ratio, and 3.5 student-teacher

ratio. At the other end of the continuum (maximum perspective), one district had 21,271 total FTE and 11,422 total teacher FTE. One or more districts reflected as much as 13% central administration, 7% campus administration, 21% professional staff, 87% teachers, 39% educational aides, 50% auxiliary staff, and 98% minority. In one or more districts, the top average salary for central administration was \$88,959, \$62,441 for campus administration, \$49,770 for average professional support staff, and \$40,000 for teachers. One district reported a student-staff ratio of 25.5, and a student-teacher ratio of 44.9. When the standard deviations and ranges were examined, the analysis showed 3-plus standard deviations between the top and bottom districts for all staff items.

III. **Teachers** Every Texas district reported all items grouped in the Teachers area. The average district had 4.3% teachers with 1 or more permits, 33% with 5 or more years experience, an average of 11 years of teaching experience, 24% earned advanced degrees, and 15% teacher turnover rate. The average district had 2.8% African American teachers, 7.4% Hispanic, 89.5% white, and 0.3 "Other" teachers. In the typical district, 77% were classified as regular education, 7.9% special education, 5.7% compensatory education, 2.2% bilingual education, 4.8% career and technology education, and 2.5% other education (includes gifted and talented).

When minimums were examined, one or more districts had no teachers with one or more permits, no teachers with 5 or more years experience, or advanced degrees, and no teacher turnover rate. One or more districts reported "zero" African American, Hispanic, and other teachers, while another district reported a low of 3% white teachers. Regarding teacher classification, one district had as few as 39% regular teachers, and "zero" special education, compensatory education, bilingual/ESL education, career and technology education and other education. The district highs for teacher data suggested that one or more districts reported 49% teachers with one or more permits, 100% with 5 years experience, 17.6 average years of experience, and 100% with advanced degrees and teacher turnover rate. One or more districts reported 89% African American, 97% Hispanic, 100% White, and 20% "other" teachers. The district's teacher classifications suggested that one or more districts reported 100% regular education teachers, 54% special education, 38% compensatory education, 44% bilingual education, 23% career and technology education, and 19% "other" education. The standard deviations and ranges showed 3-plus standard deviations between the top and bottom districts for all teacher items.

IV. **Taxes and Revenues** In the Taxes and Revenues area, 1046 districts reported tax/pupil, equalized total tax rate, and state aid per pupil; 1044 districts reported total revenue and total revenue/pupil; and 1043 districts reported % state, % local and other, and % federal data. The average district showed a taxable value per pupil of \$233,359; reflected a 1.3 equalized tax rate; and averaged \$2,580 state aid per pupil, \$16,570,000 total revenue, and \$5,667 total revenue per pupil. The average district was funded 48.3% from the state, 44.8% from local and other, and 6.9% from federal funding.

One or more districts reported "zero" tax per pupil, equalized total tax rate, and averaged \$87 state aid per pupil, \$92,347 total revenue, and \$1,402 total revenue per pupil. One or more districts reported 1% taxes and revenues from the state, 2% from the local and other, and 0% from the federal government. At the other end of the spectrum, one district reported a \$5,948,526 tax per pupil, 2.0 equalized tax rate, \$8,186 state aid per pupil, \$934,750,258 in total revenue, and \$51,462 in total

revenue per pupil. One or more districts reported 90% state funding, 99% from local and other taxes and revenues, and 47% from federal funding. When the standard deviations and ranges were collectively examined, the analysis reflected 3-plus standard deviations between the top and bottom districts for all taxes and revenues items.

v. **Fund Balances** All 1046 districts reported **Fund Balances** items. The average district reported \$2,591,882 fund balance and a 30.8% fund balance. One district reported a negative \$1,155,214 fund balance and a negative 16% fund balance. At the top of the spectrum, another reported a positive \$95,561,324 fund balance and a 157% fund balance. The standard deviations and ranges showed 3-plus standard deviations between the top and bottom districts for all fund balance items.

vi. **Expenditures (General)** Of 1046 districts, 1045 reported all **Expenditure** items. The average Texas district had \$16,850,000 total expenditures. The typical district averaged 51.7% on instruction, 8.3% on central administration, 4.8% on campus administration, 9.4% on plant services, 15.1% on other operating, and 10.7% on non-operating. The average district spent \$15,000,000 on total operating expenditures, spent \$5,059 total operating expenditure per pupil, and averaged \$8,791,258 on total instructional expenditure.

One or more districts had a \$82,710 total expenditure, and spent as little as 25% on instruction, 3% on central administration, 0% on campus administration, plant services, and non-operating, and 1% on other operating. One district reported \$992,081,337 for total expenditures. One or more districts allocated as much as 79% on instruction, 49% on central administration, 14% on campus administration, 19% on plant services, 32% on other operating, and 53% on non-operating! One or more districts reported a high of \$904,968,476 for total operating expenditure, \$27,087 total operating expenditure per pupil, and \$522,220,951 for total instruction expenditure. The standard deviations and ranges showed 3-plus standard deviations between the top and bottom districts for all **Expenditures** items.

vii. **Instructional Expenditures** All 1046 districts reported all **Instructional Expenditure** items. The average district reflected \$2,906 total instructional expenditure per pupil, and averaged 70.8% spent on regular education, 9.4% on special education, 12.1% on compensatory education, 1.1% on Bilingual education, 5.2% on career and technology education, and 1.4% on gifted and talented education. One or more districts spent as little as \$368 for total instructional expenditures, as little as 14% on regular education, and 0% on special education, compensatory education, bilingual education, career and technology education, and gifted and talented education. The maximums of the ranges for instructional expenditures were: \$14,787 for total instructional expenditure per pupil, 100% of instructional expenditures on regular education, 37% on special education, 53% on compensatory education, 23% on bilingual education, 28% on career and technology education, and 12% on gifted and talented education. The standard deviations and ranges showed 3-plus standard deviations between the top and bottom districts for all **Instructional Expenditures** items.

B. Findings Pertinent to Research Questions

1. How do school district characteristics currently reported in the Texas report cards relate to reported student achievement, using univariate (Pearson Product Moment correlation) analysis?

Student outcomes were a major focus of this study. About 1044 districts reported all tests, reading, and mathematics data; 1034 provided economically disadvantaged data; 1033 provided writing data; 1030 provided white data; and about 600 to 1000 districts provided African American, Hispanic, SAT, and ACT mean data (see Appendix B).

The Pearson Product Moment (PPM) correlation was used to examine the correlation between the 73 categories and each of the 10 outcome indicators. Note that % Other Students Passing, % Tested, and % At or Above Criterion were excluded from the academic outcome variables. The authors used three classifications of relationships including: no ($r \leq \pm .062$), moderate ($r \leq \pm .199$ to $\pm .063$), and strong ($r \leq \pm .200$) (see Appendix C).

a. General Relationships (Table 7)

i. **No Relationship.** There were 9 categories with no relationships to all tests and reading, 11 with no relationship to writing, and 8 with no relationship to math. Ethnically, 26 categories had no relationship to African American students' TAAS outcome, 20 categories with no relationship to Hispanic students' outcome, 15 with no relationship to white students' outcome, and 12 with no relationship to economically disadvantaged students' TAAS outcome. There were 15 categories with no relationship to SAT score, and 12 with no relationship to ACT scores. About 19% of the 73 categories had no important association with student outcome, 40% had a moderate association, 41% had a strong association, and 81% of the 73 categories had an important ($p \leq .05$) relationship with student outcome.

ii. **Moderate and Strong Relationships.** When the strong and moderate categories are grouped, 64% of the categories related to African American student outcomes, 73% related to Hispanic outcomes, 79% related to white outcomes, 84% related to economically disadvantaged and ACT outcomes, and 85% related to TAAS writing outcomes. About 88% of all tests and reading categories related to student outcome and 89% of the categories related to math student outcomes.

b. Positive Relationships.

When the 73 categories in the report card were associated with the 10 outcome measures reported, 11 displayed strong positive relationships to student outcome ($r \geq .200$). These included:

Table 7. The categories and respective percent with no association, moderate association, strong association, and important ($p \leq .05$) association with student outcome.

Outcome Indicators	No Association		Moderate		Strong		Important	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
1 TAAS: African Am.	26	36%	36	49%	11	15%	47	64%
2 TAAS: Hispanic	20	27%	40	55%	13	18%	53	73%
3 TAAS: White	15	21%	33	45%	25	34%	58	79%
4 SAT score	15	21%	30	41%	28	38%	58	79%
5 TAAS: Econ. Disad.	12	16%	37	51%	24	33%	61	84%
6 ACT score	12	16%	32	44%	29	40%	61	84%
7 TAAS: Writing	11	15%	21	29%	41	56%	62	85%
8 TAAS: All Tests	9	12%	14	19%	50	68%	64	88%
9 TAAS: Reading	9	12%	22	30%	42	58%	64	88%
10 TAAS: Math	8	11%	28	38%	37	51%	65	89%
Average	13.7	19%	29.3	40%	30	41%	59.3	81%

Association Legend

No association: $r \leq \pm .062$

Moderate association: $r \geq \pm .063$ to $\pm .199$

Strong association: $r \geq \pm .200$

Important association: $r \geq \pm .062$ ($p \leq .05$). Important = Moderate + Strong

Area	Category
Student	5 year change in students (#5) % white (#8), % other (#9), % gifted and talented (#14) % attendance (#15)
Teacher	% white (#53) % regular education (#55)
Staff	% teachers (#36) student staff ratio (#44)
Instructional Expenditure	% regular education (#82)
Expenditure	% non-operating (#77)

c. **Negative Relationships.**

When the 73 categories in the report card were associated with the 10 outcome measures reported, 25 displayed strong negative relationships to student outcome ($r \leq - .200$). These included:

<u>Area</u>	<u>Category</u>
• Teachers	% having 5 or more years experience (#47) % career and technology education (#59) % compensatory education (#57) % teachers with one or more permits (#46) % Hispanic (#52) % bilingual (#58) % African American (#51)
• Students	% career technology education (#13) total schools (#2) % bilingual (#12) % dropout (#16) % Hispanic (#7) % economically disadvantaged (#10)
• Taxes and Revenue	fund balances (#69) % state (#66) state aid per pupil (#63) % federal (#68)
• Staff	total FTE (#31) % auxiliary staff (#38) % minority (#43)
• Expenditure	total operating expenditure per pupil (#79) % central administration (#73) % other operating (#78)
• Instructional Expenditure	% bilingual education (#85) % compensatory education (#84)

When the 25 categories with important negative associations were examined by race, 18 of the 26 categories did not have an important ($r \leq -.200$) negative relationship to African American outcome, 15 of the 26 did not have an important negative association with Hispanic outcome, and 9 of the 26 did not have an important relationship with white outcomes.

When the SAT and ACT (national indicators) outcomes were examined, 5 of the 26 did not have an important association with SAT score [e.g., total FTE (#31)], % career and technology education (#13), total schools (#2), % auxiliary staff (#38), and % other operating (#76) or the ACT score (e.g., total FTE (#31)), % with more than 5 years experience (#47), % career and technology education (#13), total schools (#2), and fund balances (#69).

d. **Neutral Associations** While 38 of the 73 categories had an important positive or negative association with outcome, 34--about 50%--of the categories did not (see Appendix C, shaded areas). The analysis suggested that 10 Staff , 6 Teachers, 5 Instructional Expenditures, 4 Tax and Revenues, 4

Expenditure, 3 Student, and 2 Fund Balance categories did not have an important association with student outcomes.

e. **Extreme Associations** The maximum and minimum "r" relationships among the 73 categories and 10 outcome indicators were examined by sorting (i.e., large to small) the range "r" for each category. The categories with the largest ($r \geq .300$) extremes were examined (Appendix D). Of the 23 categories identified with an extremely large range, 21 were in the reading associations, 14 in the African American relationships, 6 in the white relationships, 3 in the Hispanic, and 1 each in the ACT and the writing associations. Extreme "r" associations were not represented in the all tests, mathematics, economically disadvantaged, or SAT relationships.

f. **Summary.** Only 36 of the 73 school/school district characteristics placed in the report cards have either strong ($p \leq .05$) positive or negative relationship to outcomes. Since more than half of the categories have weak or no relationships to student performance, one wonders why they are included in an already overwhelming plethora of information.

2. **What categories, using univariate analysis, strongly associate with student outcomes as a whole (as opposed to the 10 different outcome indicators individually)?**

In Appendix E, average "r" relationships (PPM) among the 10 outcome indicators were identified. The categories with the largest average relationships ($r \geq \pm .200$) were identified. Of the 73 categories, 29 had a large average association with the 10 outcome indicators. Of these 29 categories, the three strongest ($r = \pm .500$) were in the Student area:

- % economically disadvantaged (#10: $r = -.588$) - negative
- % attendance rate (#15: $r = .508$) - positive
- % white (#8: $r = .500$) - positive

Of these 29 categories, 9 were in the Student area, 8 were in the Teacher area, 4 were in the Taxes and Revenue area, 3 were in the Staff area, 3 were in the Expenditure area, and 2 were in the Instructional Expenditure area.

As shown in Appendix E, the average "r" consists of individual "r's" that have the same directional impact (positive or negative) or that are not significant ($< \pm .200$). For instance, % economically disadvantaged has a negative relationship with each individual outcome indicator as well as with the average outcome.

3. **Do the report card characteristics appear to represent all or most of the factors which relate to student outcome?**

Exploratory multiple regression was used to examine the association among the 73 independent variables and 10 reported measures of student outcomes. Because of the number of outcome measures, the analyses were complicated. Table 8 displays the results.

Nineteen categories were associated with reading outcomes. These 19 items accounted for 62% of the possible variance, thereby leaving 38 percent of whatever influences reading results

Table 8. The percent of variance, using multivariate analysis, the 73 categories had on each of the 10 outcome indicators.

	<u>Variance &</u>	<u>Outcome Indicator</u>	<u>Categories (n) of</u>	<u>Test</u>
1.	62	Reading	19	TAAS
2.	59	All Tests	18	TAAS
3.	53	Math	12	TAAS
3.	42	Writing	22	TAAS
4.	42	ACT mean score	11	National/College Adm.
5.	35	White	21	TAAS
7.	34	Economically Disadvantaged	16	TAAS
8.	29	SAT mean score	14	National/College Adm.
9.	18	Hispanic	11	TAAS
10	16	African American	11	TAAS
Average		39	15	

unidentified. This percentage of explained variance was the highest found in the 10 analyses.

Eighteen categories were associated with the outcome measure representing all tests. These 18 items accounted for 59% of the possible variance, leaving 41% of the influence on combined test scores unidentified. Examination of the percentages of variance for the other eight outcome measures showed a range of 16% to 53%.

In none of the analyses do the report card characteristics represent all or most of the factors which influence student outcomes. From 38 to 84 percent of the influencing factors for any of the outcome measures are not present in the 73 independent variables reported. The response to the research question is clear.

4. How do school district characteristics currently reported in the Texas report cards relate to the reported student achievement, using multivariate analysis?

a. **Areas and Respective categories with strong, moderate, and no association with the 10 outcome indicators.** Now applying multivariate analysis (Appendices F-G), areas and the respective number of categories for each classification were used to classify the 10 outcome indicators. Five to ten relationships were classified as strong, three to four associations were classified as moderate, and two or to none were classified as having no relationship (Appendices F and G [Summary]). As indicated in Table 9, 12 categories representing 5 areas had a strong association with the 10 student outcome indicators, 23 categories representing 6 areas were classified as having a moderate relationship with outcome indicators, and 38 categories representing 7 areas were classified as having no meaningful association the the 10 outcome indicators (Appendices F and G).

When percentages of categories in each area are computed, 31% of the Student categories,

Table 9. A summary of the three levels of relationships (strong, moderate, no) between Texas' district report card areas and student outcome. (See Appendix G).

AREA	Categories (n) In Area n	<u>Strong</u> 5-9 rel. of 10		<u>Moderate</u> 3-4 rel. of 10		<u>No meaningful</u> 0-2 rel. of 10	
		n	%	n	%	n	%
Students	16	5	31	5	31	6	38
Staff	15	4	27	4	27	7	47
Teachers	15	1	7	7	47	7	47
Taxes and Rev.	8	1	13	3	38	4	50
Fund Balance	2	—	—	—	—	2	100
Expenditure (General)	9	1	11	2	22	6	67
Inst. Expenditure	8	—	—	2	25	6	75
Total	73	12	16	23	32	38	52

27% of the Staff categories, 7% of the Teachers categories, 13% of the Taxes and Revenues categories, and 11% of the Expenditure categories have an important association with the 10 outcome indicators. The analysis shows that 47% of the Teachers categories, 31% of the Students, 27% of the Staff, 38% of the Taxes and Revenues, 22% of the Expenditure [General], and 25% of the Instructional Expenditure categories have a moderate association with student outcome. Fewer than half of the categories in each area had an important or moderate impact on student achievement.

All of the information in the report card may be valuable to somebody, but a number of items/categories and one or more areas probably should be eliminated if the report represents an attempt to communicate to most educators and the general public what is important to the performance of Texas students.

b. Categories with a strong association with the 10 student outcome indicators. In contrast to research question #1, which used univariate analysis (PPM), the multivariate analysis as illustrated in Appendix G was used for research question #4. In this analysis, 12 categories had a strong association (5 to 10 significant relationships) with the 10 student outcome indicators. They included:

	<u>Category</u>	<u>Number of Associations</u>
1	% economically disadvantaged (#10)	9
2	% attendance rate (#15)	8
3	% teacher turnover rate (#50)	8
4	student teacher ratio (#45)	7
5	mean teacher salary (#42)	6
6	% white [students] (#8)	5

7	% special education [students] (#11)	5
8	number of graduates [students] (#17)	5
9	% minority [Staff] (#43)	5
10	student staff ratio [Staff] (#44)	5
11	total revenue/pupil [Taxes and Revenues] (#65)	5
12	total operating expenditure per pupil [Expenditure] (#12)	5

The categories with moderate or no relationships are excluded from further discussion because they relationships with less than five of the 10 outcome indicators—would a consumer want to justify a category on the basis of four or fewer associations? Thus, there are 61 categories that have no important association with student outcome.

c. Outcome indicators with the most relationships to categories.

Which outcome indicators have the most and least associations with the categories having strong relationships? As indicated in b. above, 12 of the 73 categories had a "strong" association with student outcome (see Appendix G). Even within the categories identified as having a strong association with student outcomes, the number of associations varied from 9 to 4. The analysis indicated that the following outcome indicators had a number of associations with the 12 categories. They are:

	<u>Outcome Indicator</u>	<u>Number of associations in the "Strong" cluster</u>
1	TAAS: Reading	9
2	TAAS: Writing	9
3	TAAS: White students	9
4.	TAAS: All tests	8
5.	TAAS: Mathematics	8
6.	Economically disadvantaged	8
7	TAAS: African American students	6
8.	TAAS: Hispanic students	6
9.	SAT	6
10	ACT	4

5. How statistically complex are the categories identified as having a very strong relationship to student outcomes? (see Appendix G)

The four categories with the most consistent association with student outcome were (≥ 7 of 10 multivariate relationships):

- 1 #10: % Economically Disadvantaged [Student Area]
- 2 #15: % Attendance Rate [Student Area]
- 3 #50: Teacher Turnover Rate [Teacher Area]
- 4 #45: Student-Teacher Ratio [Teacher Area]

The positive and negative relationships ("r") between each of these four categories and the other 72 categories were examined. When there are many such relationships, the category is considered to be statistically "complex" and not discrete. Appendix H shows the number of categories with significantly negative and positive associations. These categories identified in Appendix G are summarized below:

	Number of Significant Relationships		
	Positive	Negative	Total
1. % Economically Disadvantaged (#10)	28	23	51
2. % Attendance (#15)	15	43	58
3. Teacher Turnover Rate (#50)	18	27	45
4. Student-Teacher Ratio (#45)	38	24	62

Clearly, these category variables are very complex! These numerous relationships may color, to some extent, the influence of any single factor on student outcomes.

6. How does the district's accreditation status relate to student outcome?

The *Snapshot 94'* states:

ACCREDITATION STATUS: The accreditation status of the district as of September 1994. Districts are classified as either EX-Exemplary; RE-Recognized; AC-Accredited; or, AW-Accredited Warned. Approximately 94 percent of the districts in the state are accredited. See the TEA publication *Accountability Manual: The 1994-95 Accountability Rating System for Texas Public Schools and School Districts* for a detailed description of the 1994 accountability criteria and standards.

Texas has 1046 districts. Six are rated Exemplary (0.5%), 55 are Recognized (5.2%), 982 are Accredited (93.9%), and 3 are classified as Accredited Warned (0.3%). Z-scores (standard deviations (SD) above or below the mean) were developed for each of the 10 outcome indicators and average z-scores were developed for each district (see Appendix I).

a. **Accreditation Status** The average z-scores for the 6 **Exemplary** districts ranged from 2.4 to 2.0, and their rankings ranged from 1044 to 1039, suggesting that Texas appropriately awarded the top academic schools an Exemplary rating (Appendix I). (Note: the higher the number ranking, the higher the academic achievement). The 3 **Accredited Warned** districts' average z-scores ranged from -3.3 to -.29, and their rankings of 1, 2, and 5 suggested that these three districts appropriately represented some of the lowest academic districts in Texas.

The average z-score for the **Recognized** districts ranged from +2.1 to 0.0, and their rankings ranged from 1040 to 538 (close to the median). As illustrated in Appendix I (2nd page), the districts that ranked from 1040 to 1000 had one or none of the 10 outcome indicators receiving a z-score below 1.0 (**the boxes in Appendix I, 2nd page, illustrated items with a z-scores ≤1.0**) and average z-scores from 2.1 to 1.4. The districts ranking between 999 to 900 had about 2 outcome indicators with a z-score below 1.0 and had an average z-score between 1.4 and .9. The bottom 11 **Recognized** districts ranked between 899 and 538, averaged 2 to 3 missing cells per district, and averaged about 5 outcome indicators with less than 1.0 z-score. Of these 11 districts, 10 districts had at least one outcome indicator with a negative z-score. Why would Texas award a **Recognized** Accreditation Status to school districts with slightly above average outcomes, and many outcome indicators with negative z-scores?

b. **Top vs. Bottom Outcome Districts** The authors identified (i.e., by using z-scores and rankings) and examined Texas' top and bottom 20 academic districts.

I. **Top Academic Districts** Of the 20 top academic districts, 5 were classified as **Exemplary** status, 8 were classified as **Recognized** status, and 7 were classified as **Accredited** status (see Appendix I). The average z-score for these districts ranged from 2.5 to 1.7. The TAAS subskills mean z-score data analysis showed that these districts averaged 2.2 z-score on All Tests, 1.6 on reading, 1.5 on writing, and 2.0 on math. TAAS racial outcome indicators showed that one district reported African American, 11 reported Hispanic, and 20 reported White outcomes. National tests data showed that 7 districts reported SAT scores and 8 reported ACT scores.

II. **Bottom Academic Districts** Of the bottom 20 academic districts, 3 were classified as **Accredited Warned** and 17 were classified as **Accredited**. These district's average z-scores ranged from -3.3 to -1.8. The TAAS subskills mean z-score data analysis showed that these districts averaged -2.5 z-score on All Tests, -2.9 on reading, -3.0 on writing, and -2.5 on math. The TAAS racial outcomes indicators reflected that 3 districts reported African American outcome data, 20 districts reported Hispanic, and 14 reported White outcome data. Ten of these districts reported SAT data and 12 reported ACT data.

III. **Differences between Top and Bottom Districts** There are some academic profile differences between the top 20 districts and bottom 20 districts. The top districts have an average median z-score of 1.9, and the bottom districts have an average median z-score of -2.2. Ethnically, the bottom districts report 300% more African American outcome data, and 55% more Hispanic data and 30% less white outcomes data. Regarding national tests, the top districts reported 30% more SAT data than did the bottom districts, and the bottom districts reported 33% more ACT data than did the top districts.

c. Unexpected Observations

The z-scores, ranks, mean z-scores and total ranks were used to examine three of the 28 districts reported in Tables 1-6: Paint Creek, Canadian, and Donna (Snapshot '94, pp 154-159). Per examination of Appendix J, Paint Creek, Canadian, and Donna districts have z-scores, ranks, and percentiles that appear to be incongruent with their accreditation status. These incongruencies are summarized below:

	<u>District</u>	<u>Assigned Accreditation</u>	<u>Mean z-score</u>	<u>Rank (1046 Districts)</u>	<u>Percentile</u>
1.	Paint Creek	Recognized	.04	538	51%
2.	Canadian	Accredited	1.8	1031	99%
3	Donna	Accredited	-1.8	22 *	2%

* A 1046 rank represents the top academically rated school district and a 1 ranking represents the lowest academically rated district.

7. After eliminating the overlap between the 73 independent variables and the 10 dependent variables, what approximate weights can be assigned to the variables with the greatest and smallest association with student outcome?

The Guttman's Partial Correlation (GPC) statistic was used to examine the association among the 73 independent variables (report card categories) and the 10 dependent variables (outcome indicators).

a. **Positive Associations** Six of the 73 categories had a consistently positive association with all of the 10 outcome indicators (Appendix K, p.1 [see non-shaded categories]). Categories with a consistently positive association included:

- 1 % attendance [*student area*] (#18)
- 2 average professional support staff salary [*staff area*] (#41)
- 3 % special education [*staff area*] (#56)
- 4 % federal [*taxes and revenues area*] (#68)
- 5 % state [*taxes and revenues area*] (#66)
- 6 % local [*taxes and revenues area*] (#67)

b. **Negative Associations** Five of the 73 categories had a consistently negative association with all 10 outcome indicators (Appendix K, p.1 [see shaded categories]):

- 1 state aid per pupil [*taxes and revenues area*] (#63)
- 2 total revenues per pupil [*taxes and revenues area*] (#65)
- 3 % career and technology education [*student area*] (#13)
- 4 % dropout [*student area*] (#16)
- 5 % central administration [(general) *expenditure area*] (#73)

c. **Important Associations ($R^2 [\%] \geq 0.5\%$)** The average percent of influence on the 10 outcome indicators was developed for each of the 73 categories (see Appendix K, 2nd page). Eight of the 73 categories averaged a $\leq 1\%$ impact on student outcome. They were:

1	% attendance [<i>student area</i>] (#15)	5.0%
2	% economically disadvantaged [<i>student area</i>] (#10)	1.8%
3	teacher turnover rate [<i>teacher area</i>] (#50)	1.5%
4	total operating expenditure [<i>expenditure area</i>] per pupil (#79)	0.7%
5	state aid per pupil [<i>taxes and revenues area</i>] (#63)	0.7%
6	total revenue per pupil [<i>taxes and revenues area</i>] (#65)	0.6%
7	percent special education [<i>expenditures area</i>] (#79)	0.5%
8.	% Gifted (#14)	0.5%

The remaining 68 categories averaged less than 0.5% association with student outcomes.

d. **Maximum Associations** The maximum percent of association between each category and the 10 outcome indicators was developed (Table 10). Other than % attendance, % economically disadvantaged, and teacher turnover rate, the other categories showed less than a 2% association with student outcomes.

VI. CONCLUSIONS

The findings from the report card analyses reported in the previous pages generate the following conclusions.

A. **Most of the categories/items in the Texas Report Card have little or no meaningful relationship to student outcomes.**

Table 10 Texas school district categories with the largest percent of association with an outcome indicators

	<u>Category</u>	<u>% Max. Association.</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Outcome Indicator</u>
1	15. % Attendance	9.3%	Student	Math (TAAS)
2	10. % Econ. Disadvantaged	3.4%	Student	White (TAAS)
3	50. Tch. Turnover Rate	3.0%	Teache	White (TAAS)
4	63. State Aid/Pupil	2.1%	Taxes and Rev.	SAT
5	79. Total Oper. Exp/Pupil	1.7%	Expenditures	Econ. Disad. (TAAS)
6	43. % Minority	1.6%	Staf	SAT
7	14. % Gifted	1.5%	Student	All Tests (TAAS)
8	37. % Educ. Aides	1.5%	Staff	All Tests (TAAS)
9	5. 5 yr % change	1.4%	Student	Af. Am. (TAAS)
10	11. % Spec. Ed.	1.2%	Student	ACT
11	45. St. Teacher Ratio	1.1%	Staff	Writing (TAAS)
12	84. % Compensatory Ed.	1.1%	Inst. Expend.	Writing (TAAS)
13	38. % Auxiliary Staff	1.1%	Staff	All Tests (TAAS)
14	39. M Cent. Ad. \$	1.1%	Staff	SAT
15	46. %Tch. ≥1 Permit	1.1%	Teachers	Writing (TAAS)
16	59. % Career-Tech Ed.	1.1%	Teachers	Reading (TAAS)
17	86. % Career & Tech. Ed.	1.0%	Inst. Expend.	Writing (TAAS)
18	65. Total Revenue/Pupil	1.0%	Taxes and Rev.s	All Tests (TAAS)
19	82. % Regular Education	1.0%	Inst. Expend.	Writing (TAAS)
20	85. % Bilingual Ed.	1.0%	Inst. Expend.	Writing (TAAS)
21	44. St. Staff Ratio	1.0%	Staff	Writing (TAAS)
22	49. % Adv. Degrees	1.0%	Teachers	Hispanic (TAAS)

While the several statistical analyses used in this study to examine the relationships between school/school district variables and student performance differed somewhat in their results, it can ultimately be said that from 54 to 69 of the 73 categories in the Texas report card have little or no relationship to the 10 measures of student outcomes reported. If the report card's purpose is to help educators improve performance or enable policymakers to determine what should be funded and fostered to bring about educational improvement, a great deal of the contents of the report card should either be eliminated or at least segregated under a caption that these items have not shown a statistical correlation to student outcomes. Perhaps there are other valid agendas for including all of the information in these report cards other than assessing and improving student outcomes. These agendas should be stated.

B. Of the three factors most influential on student outcomes, two can be addressed in school improvement efforts.

Attendance, percentage of economically disadvantaged students, and teacher turnover rate were the three variables most influencing the test scores of Texas students (at least among the 73 categories reported). The first and last of these can be improved. Educators and policymakers can start there if improvement is truly desired.

C. The choice of statistical techniques used to examine complex relationships between student outcomes and related factors influences the products of the examinations.

This is not a new or startling revelation. The investigators have highlighted it in other studies. It is worth noting again. A discussion of the benefits and restrictions of various statistical analyses is worth continuing. The authors will pursue it in another paper in which the Texas report card data are used.

D. The Texas report card, like those in some other states, does not include information on some of the most important factors influencing student performance.

As reported in response to research question 6, the 73 categories in the Texas report card do not include a number of factors that influence the performance of Texas students. The application of several different statistical analyses of associations between these 73 variables and 10 different measures of student outcomes indicated that 38% to 95 % of the influencing factors for any of the outcome measures are not currently identified. These findings are similar to those from previous studies in other states. The report cards studied previously did not include the large number of school/school system factors that are present in the Texas data. It becomes more and more clear that we must look for other types of factors such as curricular, instructional, administrative, motivational/drive, family and school expectations, ethics/morals, and organizational variables in schools to discover how to clearly facilitate and improve student academic outcomes.

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IX. NOTES

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3

Appendix A

ITEM DEFINITIONS

Items are defined in the sequence they appear in the *District Detail* section of the report. The data items are numbered to correspond with numbers used in the column headings. To ascertain data sources for these items, refer to the *Data Sources appendix* which cross-references sources with the items defined below.

COUNTY NUMBER AND NAME: The county number is a unique identifier assigned to each county for administrative purposes. The numbers correspond to the alphabetic arrangement of county names.

DISTRICT NAME: The name of the district which includes a designator for the governance system. These designators are:

ISD (Independent School District): A locally elected board of trustees governs the district.

CSD (Common School District): The county commissioners court governs the school district.
MSD (Municipal School District): The city council governs the school district.

Most school districts are independent school districts. Due to space limitations, the "ISD" designation has been omitted but other governance designators have been retained.

REGION: The Education Service Center region to which the district is

assigned based upon its geographic location. There are 20 ESCs serving districts in the various areas of the state.

Co-op Status: An indicator of whether or not a district participates in a Special Education cooperative. An "F" indicates the district is a member, "M" indicates the district is a member, and a blank means the district does not participate. For these districts, dollar amounts per student may be distorted because student counts and budgeted expenditures may be reported by different districts. Districts participating in other types of cooperatives are not indicated.

- 1. ACCREDITATION STATUS:** The accreditation status of the district as of September 1994. Districts are classified as either EX-Exemplary; RE-Recognized; AC-Accredited; or, AW-Accredited Warned. Approximately 94 percent of the districts in the state are accredited. See the TEA publication *Accountability Manual: The 1994-95 Accountability Rating System for Texas Public Schools and School Districts for a detailed description of the 1994 accountability criteria and standards.*
- 2. TOTAL NUMBER OF SCHOOLS:** A count of campuses in a district which have a unique state-assigned nine-digit identifier and had students enrolled as of October 29, 1993.
- 3. NUMBER OF REGULAR HIGH SCHOOLS:** The number of high school campuses in a district identified

by the range of grades offered as reported to TEA. Seventy-nine percent of the schools that are classified as high schools offer grades 9-12. See Exhibit B in the End Notes for the details of other grade configurations which are categorized as high schools.

- 4. Total Students:** The number of students in membership as of October 29, 1993, in grades pre-kindergarten through twelve. Membership is defined as the count of students enrolled with an average daily attendance status code that is not equal to zero. Students with a status code of zero, meaning enrolled but not in membership, are not included in this item. Statewide, 6,422 students, or 0.2 percent of all students, are not included in this item.
- 5. FIVE YEAR % CHANGE IN TOTAL STUDENTS:** The percent change in total students for the five year period from 1988-89 to 1993-94.
- 6. % AFRICAN AMERICAN:** Percentage of total students reported as African American.
- 7. % HISPANIC:** Percentage of total students reported as Hispanic.
- 8. % WHITE:** Percentage of total students reported as white.
- 9. % OTHER:** Percentage of total students reported as other. Other is the combination of Asian/Pacific Islander and Native American counts.

- 10. % ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED:** Percentage of total students reported as economically disadvantaged. Economically disadvantaged students are those who are eligible for free meals under the National School Lunch and Child Nutrition Program, reduced-price meals under the National School Lunch and Child Nutrition Program, or other public assistance.
- 11. % SPECIAL EDUCATION:** Students reported with any one of these three status codes may or may not be enrolled in a special program such as compensatory or special education.
- 12. % BILINGUAL/ESL EDUCATION:** Students identified as participating in special education expressed as a percent of total students. Students in special education may also be counted in another special program such as career and technology or bilingual education.
- 13. % CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION:** Students identified as taking career and technology education courses expressed as a percent of total students. Students

taking these courses may also be counted in another special program such as special or bilingual education.

14. % GIFTED AND TALENTED EDUCATION: Students identified and served in state-approved gifted and talented programs expressed as a percent of total students. Students in gifted and talented education may also be counted in another special program such as career and technology or bilingual education.

15. ATTENDANCE RATE: The total number of days students were present in 1992-93 divided by the total number of days students were in membership in 1992-93. Only students in grades 1 through 12 are included in the calculations. Computations of attendance rates in prior editions of Snapshot were based on the second six weeks reporting period rather than attendance for the entire school year.

16. ANNUAL DROPOUT RATE 92-93 (METHOD II): The total number of 1992-93 dropouts reported in grades 7-12 expressed as a percent of the total number of students in membership in grades 7-12 during 1992-93. This rate differs from dropout rates reported in previous Snapshot publications in two major ways: 1) dropouts reported by districts were subjected to a more extensive recovery process than that used in prior years; and, 2) the denominator reflects the total count of 7th through 12th graders in membership during the year rather than the count of students in these grades on a day in late October.

Districts with 7th-12th graders which

reported that no students dropped out have a zero (0) dropout rate. If dropout data are not required for a district because only lower grades are offered, then an "n/a" is printed. "LT5" will appear in cases where there were fewer than five 7th-12th graders, to protect the students' anonymity.

17. NUMBER OF GRADUATES (CLASS OF 1993): The number of students who graduated during the 1992-93 school year, including the summer of 1993. counts of graduates identified as receiving special education services are included in this total.

18. % PASSING ALL TESTS TAKEN: For grades 3 through 8 and 10 and all subject areas, the total number of students who passed all the tests they attempted, expressed as a percentage of the total number of students taking mathematics tests. Special education students and their scores have been excluded. "LT5" will appear in cases where fewer than five students were tested, to protect the students' anonymity. If no students were tested, an "n/a" is printed. In the spring of 1994, mathematics was administered to students in grades 3 through 8 and 10.

19. % PASSING READING: For all grades, the total number of students who passed reading, expressed as a percentage of the total number of students taking reading tests. Special education students and their scores have been excluded. "LT5" will appear in cases where fewer than five students were tested, to protect the students' anonymity. If no students were tested, an "n/a" is printed.

through 8 and 10.

20. % PASSING WRITING: For all grades, the number of students who passed writing, expressed as a percentage of the total number of students taking writing tests. Special education students and their scores have been excluded. "LT5" will appear in cases where fewer than five students were tested, to protect the students' anonymity. If no students were tested, an "n/a" is printed.

21. % PASSING MATHEMATICS: For all grades, the number of students who passed mathematics, expressed as a percentage of the total number of students taking mathematics tests. Special education students and their scores have been excluded. "LT5" will appear in cases where fewer than five students were tested, to protect the students' anonymity. If no students were tested, an "n/a" is printed.

22. % AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDENTS PASSING: For grades 3 through 8 and 10 and all subject areas, the number of African American students who passed all the tests they attempted, expressed as a percentage of the total number of African American students taking one or more tests. Special education students and their scores have been excluded. "LT5" will appear in cases where fewer than five students were tested, to protect the students' anonymity. If no students were tested, an "n/a" is printed.

23. % HISPANIC STUDENTS PASSING: For grades 3 through 8 and 10 and all subject areas, the number of Hispanic students who passed all the tests they attempted, expressed as a percentage of the total number of Hispanic students taking one or more tests. Special education students and their scores have been excluded. "LT5" will appear in cases where fewer than five students were tested, to protect the students' anonymity. If no students were tested, an "n/a" is printed.

24. % WHITE STUDENTS PASSING: For grades 3 through 8 and 10 and all subject areas, the number of white students who passed all the tests they attempted, expressed as a percentage of the total number of white students taking one or more tests. Special education students and their scores have been excluded. "LT5" will appear in cases where fewer than five students were tested, to protect the students' anonymity. If no students were tested, an "n/a" is printed.

25. % OTHER STUDENTS PASSING: For grades 3 through 8 and 10 and all subject areas, the number of Asian/Pacific Islander and Native American students who passed all the tests they attempted, expressed as a percentage of the total number of Asian/Pacific Islander and Native American students taking one or more tests. Special education students and their scores have been excluded. "LT5" will appear in cases where fewer than five students were tested, to protect the students' anonymity. If no students were tested, an "n/a" is printed.

students were tested, an "n/a" is printed.

26. % ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED STUDENTS PASSING: For grades 3 through 8 and 10 and all subject areas, the number of economically disadvantaged students who passed all the tests they attempted, expressed as a percentage of the total number of economically disadvantaged students taking one or more tests. Special education students and their scores have been excluded. "LT5" will appear in cases where fewer than five students were tested, to protect the students' anonymity. If no students were tested, an "n/a" is printed.

27. PERCENT TESTED (CLASS OF 1993): The count of students expected to graduate who took either the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) or the enhanced ACT of the American College Testing program at least once prior to May 1993, expressed as a percent of all graduates. Note that the count of graduates in the denominator does not include special education graduates.

28. PERCENT AT OR ABOVE CRITERION (CLASS OF 1993): The count of students expected to graduate who scored at or above the criterion score on either test (1000 on the SAT and 24 on the ACT) expressed as a percent of all graduates. Note that the count of graduates in the denominator does not include special education graduates.

29. SAT MEAN TOTAL SCORE (CLASS OF 1993): The sum of the

mathematics and verbal portions of the SAT divided by the number of students tested. Total scores for the SAT range from 400 to 1600. These results include the most recent scores received by graduates on an SAT taken anytime during their high school years. Scores are reported for 12th graders who expected to graduate during the 1992-93 school year.

If no students were tested or no scores were reported, then an "n/a" is printed. "LT5" will appear in cases where fewer than five students were tested to protect the confidentiality of the students' test scores.

30. ACT MEAN COMPOSITE SCORE (CLASS OF 1993): The average of the scores from the English, mathematics, reading, and science reasoning portions of the ACT, created by summing the score on each portion and dividing by the number of students tested. Composite scores for the ACT range from 1 to 36. Composite scores include only the most recent scores received by graduates during either their junior or senior years. Scores are reported for 12th graders who expected to graduate during the 1992-93 school year.

Since October 1989, a revised ACT, the Enhanced ACT Assessment, has been administered. All uses of the term ACT in this publication refer to this revised test.

test scores.

31. TOTAL STAFF FTE: A count of all personnel employed by the school district as of fall 1993, including both professional and non-professional positions. All staff counts are expressed as full time equivalents. The appropriate portion of an FTE is allocated to each of the responsibilities associated with an individual based on a percentage of total time worked.

32. TOTAL TEACHER FTE: The FTE count of personnel categorized as teachers, including substitute teachers.

33. %CENTRAL ADMINISTRATIVE: The FTE count of personnel classified as administrators in the central office, expressed as a percent of total staff FTEs. Central office administrators include superintendents, assistant superintendents, business managers, tax assessor collectors, and directors of personnel, as well as instructional officers and athletic directors if reported with a '700' campus code.

34. % CAMPUS ADMINISTRATIVE: The FTE count of personnel classified as campus administrators, expressed as a percent of total staff FTEs. Campus administrators include principals and assistant principals, as well as instructional officers and athletic directors if reported with a '700' campus code other than '700.'

35. % PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT STAFF: The FTE count of personnel categorized as support staff expressed as a percent of total staff FTEs. Support staff are defined as therapists, psychologists, counselors, psychiatrists, and nurses, librarians, supervisors, department heads, registrars, and miscellaneous other support roles. See Exhibit E in the End Notes for a complete listing.

36. % TEACHERS: The teacher FTE count expressed as a percent of total staff FTEs.

37. % EDUCATIONAL AIDS: The FTE count of personnel categorized as educational aides expressed as a percent of total staff FTEs. Educational aides perform routine classroom tasks under the general supervision of a certified teacher or teaching team.

38. % AUXILIARY STAFF: The FTE count of personnel categorized as auxiliary staff expressed as a percent of total staff FTEs. Auxiliary staff are those personnel for whom no role was reported. Examples include cafeteria workers and bus drivers.

39. AVERAGE CENTRAL ADMINISTRATIVE SALARY: The total salary of central administrators divided by the total FTE count of central administrators. The total salary amount is base pay only; any supplements are excluded.

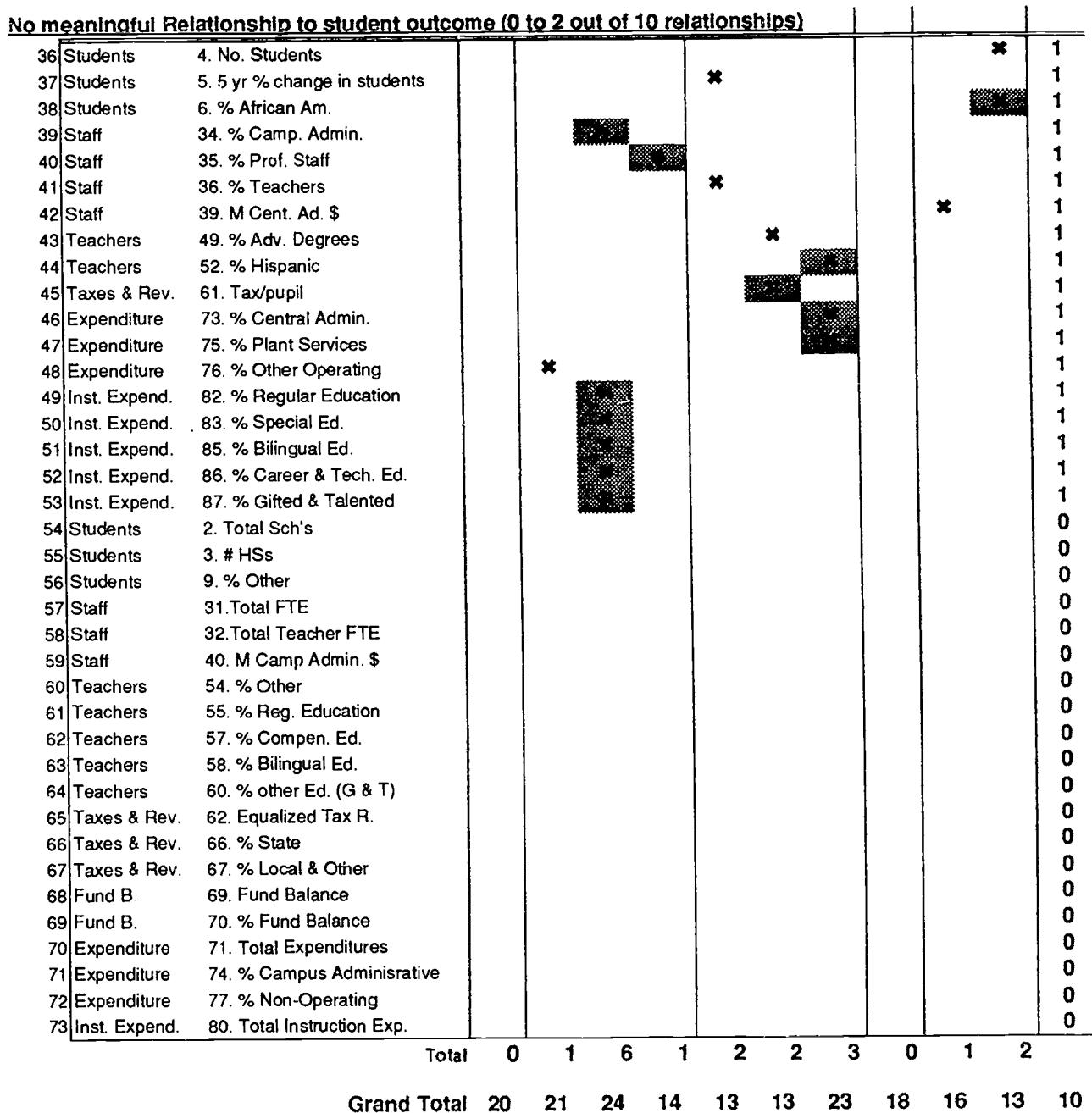
40. AVERAGE CAMPUS ADMINISTRATIVE SALARY: The total salary of campus administrators divided by the total FTE count of campus administrators. The total salary amount is base pay only; any supplements are excluded.

- 41**
- total salary of professional support staff divided by the total FTE count of professional support staff. The total salary amount is base pay only; any supplements are excluded.
- 42. AVERAGE TEACHER SALARY:** The total salary of teachers divided by the total FTE count of teachers. The total salary amount is base pay only; any supplements are excluded.
- 43. % MINORITY:** The FTE count of all personnel reported as non-white expressed as a percent of total staff FTEs.
- 44. RATIO OF STUDENTS TO TOTAL STAFF:** The total number of students divided by the total staff FTE count.
- 45. RATIO OF STUDENTS TO TEACHERS:** The total number of students divided by the total teacher FTE count.
- 46. % TEACHERS WITH 1 OR MORE PERMITS:** The FTE count of teachers holding at least one permit as of fall 1993, expressed as a percent of the total teacher FTE count. Teachers with multiple permits are counted only once. ESCs issue four types of permits that meet different situations and require different qualifications: emergency teaching, nonrenewable, special assignment, and vocational. District superintendents may activate temporary classroom assignment permits without TEA approval. Teachers holding one or more of any of these types of permits are included in the count.
- 47. % WITH 5 OR FEWER YEARS OF EXPERIENCE:** The FTE count of teachers with zero through five total years of professional experience expressed as a percent of the total teacher FTE count. Total years of professional experience includes experience earned in another Texas school district or in another state.
- 48. AVERAGE YEARS OF EXPERIENCE:** A weighted average obtained by multiplying each teacher's FTE count by his or her years of experience, summing for all weighted counts, and then dividing by total teacher FTEs. Adjustments have been made so that teachers with zero years of experience are appropriately weighted in the formula.
- 49. % WITH ADVANCED DEGREES:** The FTE count of teachers with master's or doctoral degrees expressed as a percent of total teachers.
- 50. TEACHER TURNOVER RATE:** The total FTE count of teachers not employed in the district in the fall of 1993-94 who were employed in the district in the fall of 1992-93, divided by the total teacher FTE count for the fall of 1992-93.
- 51. % AFRICAN AMERICAN:** The FTE count of teachers reported as African American expressed as a percent of total teacher FTEs.
- 52. % HISPANIC:** The FTE count of teachers reported as Hispanic expressed as a percent of total teacher FTEs.

- 53. % WHITE:** The FTE count of teachers reported as white expressed as a percent of total teacher FTEs.
- 54. % OTHER:** The FTE count of teachers reported as Asian/Pacific Islander or Native American expressed as a percent of total teacher FTEs.
- 55. % REGULAR EDUCATION:** The FTE count of teachers identified as serving students receiving regular education instruction, expressed as a percent of total teacher FTEs.
- 56. % SPECIAL EDUCATION:** The FTE count of teachers identified as serving students receiving special education instruction, expressed as a percent of total teacher FTEs.
- 57. % COMPENSATORY EDUCATION:** The FTE count of teachers identified as serving students receiving compensatory education instruction, expressed as a percent of total teacher FTEs.
- 58. % BILINGUAL/ESL EDUCATION:** The FTE count of teachers identified as serving students receiving bilingual education or English as a Second Language (ESL) instruction, expressed as a percent of total teacher FTEs.
- 59. % CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION:** The FTE count of teachers identified as serving students receiving career and technology education instruction, expressed as a percent of total teacher FTEs.
- 60. % OTHER EDUCATION (INCLUDES GIFTED AND**
- TALENTED:** The FTE count of teachers identified as serving students receiving gifted and talented education instruction, students in honors classes, and students served in migrant programs, expressed as a percent of total teacher FTEs. On average, 98 percent of this category consists of teachers serving gifted and talented or honor students.
- 61. TAXABLE VALUE PER PUPIL:** The district's total taxable property value in 1993 as determined by the Comptroller's Property Tax Division (CPTD), divided by the total number of students in the district in 1993-94. This per pupil figure is often referred to as "wealth". Property value is determined by the CPTD as part of its annual study which attempts to present uniformly appraised property valuations statewide. The CPTD value is calculated by applying ratios created from uniform independent appraisals to the district's assessed valuations.
- 62. EQUALIZED TOTAL TAX RATE:** The sum of the district's maintenance and operation (M&O) and debt service (Interest & Sinking fund) effective tax rates. The components of this total rate are calculated by dividing the 1993 levy amounts by the taxable value for 1993. Rates are expressed per \$100 of taxable value. (NOTE: The CPTD taxable value is not the same as the locally assessed value.)
- 63. STATE AID PER PUPIL:** The amount of state money allocated to the school district under the Foundation School Program divided by each district's total student count.

64. TOTAL REVENUE: Budgeted revenue from all local, state, and federal sources, except for receipts from the sale of bonds and other revenues budgeted in fund 600, the capital project fund. See Exhibit D in the End Notes for a technical description of this item. Bulletin 679, Financial Accounting Manual, sets standards for the accounting of revenues.	70. % FUND BALANCE (OF 93-94) BUDGET: The amount of unencumbered surplus fund balance expressed as a percent of the total budgeted expenditures for the current year (1993-94).	75. % PLANT SERVICES: The percent of total expenditures budgeted for physical plant maintenance and operation.	81. TOTAL INSTRUCTIONAL EXPENDITURES: Budgeted instructional expenditures divided by total students.
65. TOTAL REVENUE PER PUPIL: Total revenue divided by total students.	71. TOTAL EXPENDITURES: Budgeted outlays of money for all functions and objects, except for expenditures budgeted in fund 600, the capital projects fund.	76. % OTHER OPERATING: The percentage of total expenditures budgeted for all other operating expenditures in the district. Other operating expenditures include expenditures for support services, pupil transportation, food services, and co-curricular activities.	82. % REGULAR EDUCATION: Expenditures budgeted for the regular education program expressed as a percent of total instructional expenditures.
66. % STATE: Revenue from state sources, such as per capita and foundation program payments.	72. % INSTRUCTIONAL: The percentage of total expenditures budgeted for instruction expenditures in the district. Instructional expenditures include expenditures for all activities dealing directly with the instruction of pupils, including instruction aided with computers.	77. % NON-OPERATING: The percentage of total expenditures budgeted for non-operating expenditures in the district. Non-operating expenditures include capital outlay expenditures not made from fund 600, the capital projects fund, debbit service expenditures; and ancillary services expenditures.	83. % SPECIAL EDUCATION: Expenditures budgeted for the special education program expressed as a percent of total instructional expenditures.
67. % LOCAL AND OTHER: Revenue from local taxes, other local sources, and intermediate sources expressed as a percent of total revenue.	73. % CENTRAL ADMINISTRATIVE: The percentage of total expenditures budgeted for central administration expenditures in the district. Central administrative expenditures include expenditures for the general administration of the district, the development of personnel and curriculum, and data processing services.	78. TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURES: The sum of all expenditures budgeted for the operation of the district. The operating expenditures are a subset of the total expenditures; they do not include debt service, capital outlay, or ancillary services.	84. % COMPENSATORY EDUCATION: Expenditures budgeted for the compensatory education program expressed as a percent of total instruction expenditures.
68. % FEDERAL: Revenue received directly from the federal government or distributed by the TEA for career and technology education, for program for educationally disadvantaged children, for food service programs, and for other federal programs, expressed as a percent of total revenue.	74. % CAMPUS ADMINISTRATIVE: The percentage of total expenditures budgeted for campus administration expenditures in the district. Campus administration expenditures include expenditures for the operation and management of a school.	79. TOTAL OPERATION EXPENDITURES PER PUPIL: Total operating expenditures divided by total students.	85. % BILINGUAL/ESL EDUCATION: Expenditures budgeted for the bilingual education and English as a second language (ESL) programs expressed as percent of total instructional expenditures.
69. FUND BALANCE (END OF 92-93): For each district, the amount of unencumbered surplus fund balance that existed at the end of the 1992-93 school year. In most districts, this amount is equivalent to the fund balance at the beginning of 1993-94.	80. TOTAL INSTRUCTIONAL EXPENDITURES: The sum of budgeted expenditures for all activities dealing directly with the instruction of pupils, including instruction through the use of computers.	86. % CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION: Expenditures budgeted for the career and technology education program expressed as a percent of total instructional expenditures.	87. % GIFTED AND TALENTED EDUCATION: Expenditures budgeted for the gifted and talented education program expressed as a percent of total instruction expenditures.

Appendix G



X = Positive significant ($p \leq .05$) relationship to student outcome indicator, and **Shaded X** = Negative significant relationship to a student outcome indicator.

2a Significantly positive associations among **Attendance Rate** and the other 72 report card categories.

	<u>Variable</u>	<u>Correlation</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Sign. Prob.</u>
1	8. % White	.268	1046	.000
2	11. % Spec. Ed.	.132	1046	.000
3	14. % Gifted	.173	1046	.000
4	33. % Cent. Admin.	.287	1046	.000
5	34. % Camp. Admin.	.065	1046	.036
6	36. % Teachers	.166	1046	.000
7	53. % White	.291	1046	.000
8	55. % Reg. Education	.312	1046	.000
9	61. Tax/pupil	.170	1046	.000
10	65. Total Revenue/Pupil	.234	1044	.000
11	67. % Local & Other	.102	1043	.001
12	70. % Fund Balance	.256	1046	.000
13	73. % Central Admin.	.246	1045	.000
14	79. Total Oper. Exp/Pupil	.257	1045	.000
15	81. T. Inst. Exp/Pupil	.242	1046	.000

2b Significantly negative associations among Attendance Rate and 72 report card categories.

	<u>Variable</u>	<u>Correlation</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Sign. Prob.</u>
1	2. Total Sch's	-.290	1046	.000
2	3. # HSs	-.279	1046	.000
3	4. No. Students	-.276	1046	.000
4	6. % African Am.	-.246	1046	.000
5	7. % Hispanic	-.148	1046	.000
6	9. % Other	-.083	1046	.007
7	10. % Econom. Disadvant.	-.198	1046	.000
8	12. % Bilingual	-.173	1046	.000
9	16. % Dropout	-.379	1022	.000
10	17. No. Graduates	-.282	966	.000
11	31. Total FTE	-.290	1046	.000
12	32. Total Teacher FTE	-.281	1046	.000
13	35. % Prof. Staff	-.325	1046	.000
14	38. % Auxiliary Staff	-.120	1046	.000
15	39. M Cent. Ad. \$	-.197	1044	.000
16	40. M Camp Admin. \$	-.230	1044	.000
17	41. M Prof. Sup. Staff \$	-.265	1027	.000
18	42. M. Teacher \$	-.147	1045	.000
19	43. % Minority	-.280	1046	.000
20	44. St. Staff Ratio	-.237	1046	.000
21	45. St. Teacher Ratio	-.334	1046	.000
22	46. %Te. ≥1 Permit	-.104	1046	.001
23	49. % Adv. Degrees	-.083	1046	.007
24	51. % Af. Am.	-.304	1046	.000
25	52. % Hispanic	-.183	1046	.000
26	56. % Spec. Ed.	-.182	1046	.000
27	57. % Compen. Ed.	-.113	1046	.000
28	58. % Bilingual Ed.	-.205	1046	.000
29	60. % other Ed. (G & T)	-.224	1046	.000
30	62. Equalized Tax R.	-.252	1046	.000
31	64. Total Revenue	-.278	1044	.000
32	66. % State	-.075	1043	.016
33	68. % Federal	-.182	1043	.000
34	69. Fund Balance	-.304	1046	.000
35	71. Total Expenditures	-.277	1045	.000
36	75. % Plant Services	-.151	1045	.000
37	76. % Other	-.145	1045	.000
38	78. T. Operating Exp.	-.278	1045	.000
39	80. Total Instruction Exp.	-.275	1046	.000
40	83. % Special Ed.	-.117	1046	.000
41	84. % Compensatory Ed.	-.133	1046	.000
42	85. % Bilingual Ed.	-.166	1046	.000
43	87. % Gifted & Talented	-.090	1046	.004

4a Significantly positive associations among Student-Teacher Ratio (STR) and the other 72 report card categories.

	<u>Variable</u>	<u>Correlation</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Sign. Prob.</u>
1	2. Total Sch's	.285	1046	.000
2	3. # HSs	.274	1046	.000
3	4. No. Students	.294	1046	.000
4	5. 5 yr % change	.341	1046	.000
5	6. % African Am.	.140	1046	.000
6	9. % Other	.220	1046	.000
7	12. % Bilingual	.101	1046	.001
8	16. % Dropout	.259	1022	.000
9	17. No. Graduates	.356	966	.000
10	31. Total FTE	.297	1046	.000
11	32. Total Teacher FTE	.291	1046	.000
12	35. % Prof. Staff	.414	1046	.000
13	38. % Auxiliary Staff	.202	1046	.000
14	39. M Cent. Ad. \$	.374	1044	.000
15	40. M Camp Admin. \$	.369	1044	.000
16	41. M Prof. Sup. Staff \$	.399	1027	.000
17	42. M. Teacher \$	.314	1045	.000
18	43. % Minority	.156	1046	.000
19	44. St. Staff Ratio	.887	1046	.000
20	48. M Yrs Exp.	.095	1046	.002
21	49. % Adv. Degrees	.153	1046	.000
22	51. % Af. Am.	.146	1046	.000
23	52. % Hispanic	.113	1046	.000
24	56. % Spec. Ed.	.127	1046	.000
25	58. % Bilingual Ed.	.201	1046	.000
26	60. % other Ed. (G & T)	.330	1046	.000
27	62. Equalized Tax R.	.135	1046	.000
28	64. Total Revenue	.284	1044	.000
29	66. % State	.069	1043	.026
30	69. Fund Balance	.317	1046	.000
31	71. Total Expenditures	.282	1045	.000
32	76. % Other	.173	1045	.000
33	77. % Non-Operating	.236	1045	.000
34	78. T. Operating Exp.	.277	1045	.000
35	80. Total Instruction Exp.	.276	1046	.000
36	83. % Special Ed.	.140	1046	.000
37	85. % Bilingual Ed.	.184	1046	.000
38	87. % Gifted & Talented	.123	1046	.000

4b Significantly negative associations among Student-Teacher Ratio (STR) and the other 72 report card categories.

	<u>Variable</u>	<u>Correlation</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Sign. Prob.</u>
1	8. % White	-.093	1046	.003
2	10. % Econom. Disadvant.	-.174	1046	.000
3	11. % Spec. Ed.	-.268	1046	.000
4	13. % Career/Technology Ed.	-.227	1046	.000
5	14. % Gifted	-.149	1046	.000
6	15. % Attendance	-.334	1046	.000
7	33. % Cent. Admin.	-.507	1046	.000
8	34. % Camp. Admin.	-.090	1046	.004
9	36. % Teachers	-.242	1046	.000
10	46. %Te. \geq 1 Permit	-.139	1046	.000
11	47. % \geq 5 yrs exper..	-.148	1046	.000
12	50. Te. Turnover Rate	-.180	1046	.000
13	53. % White	-.165	1046	.000
14	55. % Reg. Education	-.166	1046	.000
15	59. % Career-Tech Ed.	-.232	1046	.000
16	61. Tax/pupil	-.331	1046	.000
17	63. State Aid/Pupil	-.138	1046	.000
18	65. Total Revenue/Pupil	-.535	1044	.000
19	67. % Local & Other	-.073	1043	.019
20	70. % Fund Balance	-.305	1046	.000
21	73. % Central Admin.	-.519	1045	.000
22	79. Total Oper. Exp/Pupil	-.675	1045	.000
23	81. T. Inst. Exp/Pupil	-.659	1046	.000
24	86. % Career & Tech. Ed.	-.201	1046	.000
